

Fig. 5.1.1. Dynamics of number of people registered as sufferers under medical follow-up in the healthcare establishments of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in 1997 to 2004; data of Research Centre for Radiation Medicine, Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine (RCRM, AMS of Ukraine)

- Clinical Morphological Registry of Thyroid Cancer (Institute for Endocrinology and Metabolism named by V.P.Komissarenko, AMS of Ukraine);
- Ukrainian Haematological Registry (RCRM, AMS of Ukraine);
- Automatic Control System of Databases for Monitoring of the Medical and Demographic Consequences of the Chornobyl Accident (ACS DB DEMOSMONITOR, RCRM, of Ukraine).

During the 20 years after the Chornobyl accident among the Ukraine's affected people radiation-induced stochastic and deterministic effects were registered as well as other health consequences resulting from exposure to radiation during the accident itself and clean-up works.

5.1.3. Stochastic effects

Children's thyroid cancer

The increase of thyroid cancer (TC) incidence in children started in 1989. According to the data of the Institute for Endocrinology and Metabolism of the AMS of Ukraine withing 1989–2004 only in Ukraine 3,400 people who had been children and adolescents at the time of the accident had undergone surgery for thyroid cancer. *Eleven of them have died.* In 2001 the 369 new cases of thyroid cancer were registered, in 2002, 2003 and 2004 they were 311, 337, and 374 respectively, meaning that the morbidity has plateaued with no obvious decline in the nearest future (Fig. 5.1.2) [3].

In spite of the almost 99% short-term effectiveness of the treatment of thyroid cancer patients, their long-term quality of life will be reduced due to the necessity for life-long substitution therapy with thyroid hormones; limited physical and physiological capacities, and disturbances of the reproductive function. All of them will require state medical support in the future.

Thyroid cancer in adults exposed to radiation

After 2001, the medical community registered an expert-predicted excess of thyroid cancer in clean-up workers of 1986–1987. Amongst male, the nationwide level was exceeded in 1990 to 1997 by 4-fold, and in 1998 to 2004 it was exceeded by 9-fold; amongst female clean-up workers the level was exceeded by 9.7-fold and 13-fold respectively.

An increase in the rate in other monitored groups which was not predicted in 2001 was registered as well:

- amongst evacuees by 4-fold in 1990–1997, and by 6-fold in 1998–2004) compared to the nationwide level;
- among adult dwellers of radioactive-contaminated territories the increase was 4.1-fold in 1990–2004 compared to 1980–1989, and 1.6-fold compared to the nationwide level [4].

The dependence on the level of radioiodine fall-out and thyroid cancer cases was demonstrated for the first time both for children and adolescents and adults. An increase in the number of thyroid cancer cases is being forecasted for the next years.

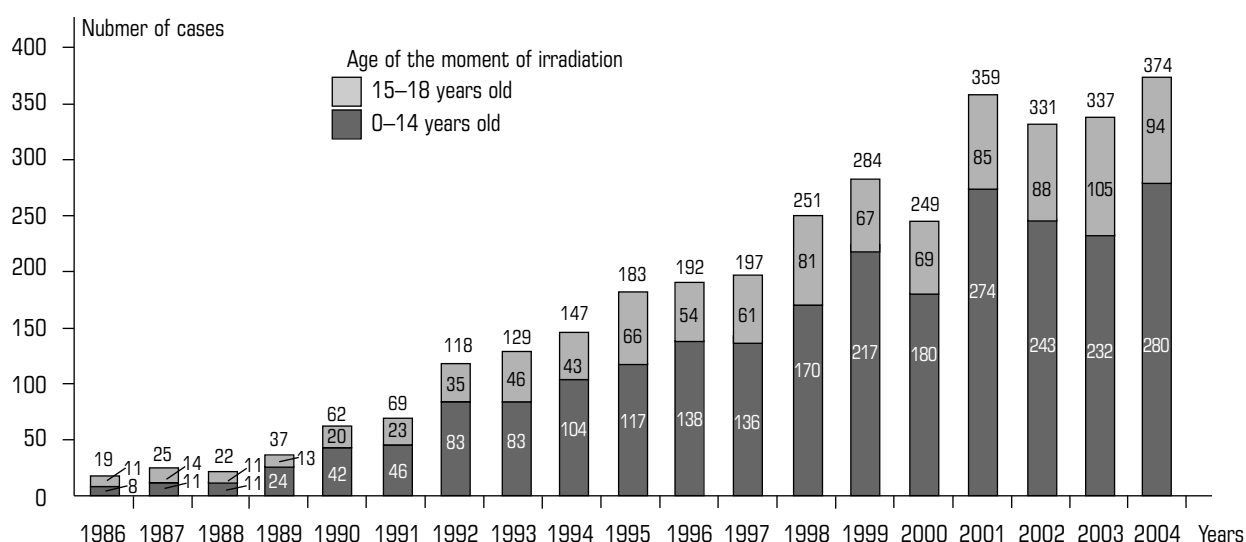


Fig. 5.2. Number of thyroid cancer cases in children and adolescents in Ukraine (0 to 18 years old at the time of the Chernobyl accident) (data of the Institute for Endocrinology and Metabolism named by Acad. V. P. Komisarenko of the AMS of Ukraine)

Table 5.1.1

Standardized incidence rates of thyroid cancer (ICD9 193) in different groups of affected people in Ukraine for 1990–2004 (data of RCRM AMS of Ukraine)

| Group | Expected number of cases | Actual number of cases identified | Standardized incidence rates SIR (%) | 95% confidence interval |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Clean-up workers | 28.1 | 156 | 554.3 | 467.3–641.3 |
| Evacuees from the 30-km zone | 31.1 | 175 | 563.5 | 480.0–647.0 |
| Inhabitants of radioactive-contaminated territories | 151.5 | 247 | 163.1 | 142.7–183.4 |

Leukemia

In 15 years after the accident, the leukemia incidence among clean-up workers who had been exposed to significant doses of radiation tended to increase: among 134 convalescents of acute radiation sickness (ARS) 5 oncohematological patients died shortly after onset of the diseases.

In a cohort of 110 645 clean-up workers in Ukraine for the time period of 1986–2000 an international groups of experts working within the framework of the Project of Ukraine – USA collaboration on elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl accident, confirmed 101 cases of leukemia including 49 cases of chronic lymphoblastic leukemia; 15 cases of chronic myeloid leukemia; 18 cases of acute leukemia; and 4 cases of of large granular lymphocytes leukemia [5].

Risk studies have shown a probable increase in the leukemia incidence rate (Table 5.1.2).

Table 5.1.2

Risks of leukemia in the 15 years after radiation exposure (data of the joint Ukrainian-American project in studying leukemia cases, November 2005)

| Type of leukemia | Relative excess risk, ERR* | 95% confidence interval | Probability level, <i>p</i> |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| All types of leukemia in clean-up workers | 2.41 | 0.11–7.54 | 0.03 |
| All types of leukemia (except chronic lymphatic leukemia) in clean-up workers | 3.22 | –0.61–12.89 | 0.041 |
| Chronic lymphatic leukemia in clean-up workers | 1.55 | –0.67–7.93 | 0.306 |
| All types of leukemia (without chronic lymphatic leukemia) in atom bomb survivors | 4.55 | 2.83–7.07 | 0.01 |

* Indices standardised by the year of birth and place of residence.

Studies in the framework of French-German Chernobyl initiative did not find any excess of leukemia among the dwellers of territories contaminated by radionuclides.

Data on leukemia cases among children who had been exposed in utero are contradictory and require further verification.

Other malignant tumours morbidity

The results of an 18-year analysis have shown that clear evidence for a growth in the incidence of cancer has been established only for clean-up workers, whereas in other exposed groups the incidence rate of cancer is much lower than in Ukraine as a whole (Table 5.1.3). These data match earlier forecasts. Nevertheless, it is not possible to be sure that there will not be future variations in incidence and mortality rates due to malignant neoplasms occurring up to 40 years after exposure.

Table 5.1.3

Standardized incidence rates for all forms of cancer (ICD9 140-208) for different groups of affected people in Ukraine for 1990–2004 (data of RCRM AMS of Ukraine)

| Group | Expected number of cases | Identified number of cases | Standardized incidence rates, SIR (%) | 95% confidence interval |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Clean-up workers | 4529 | 4922 | 108.70 | 105.6–111.7 |
| Evacuees from the 30-km zone | 2615 | 2182 | 83.40 | 79.9–86.9 |
| Inhabitants of radioactive-contaminated territories | 13 211.6 | 11 221 | 84.90 | 83.4–86.5 |

A 1.9-fold increase in the rate of breast cancer of females clean-up workers of 1986–1987 comparing to its level among the respective age groups of the female population of Ukraine revealed during 1990–2004 aroses anxiety (Table 5.1.4).

Table 5.1.4

Standardized incidence rates of breast cancer (ICD9 174) in different groups of exposed female in Ukraine for 1990–2004 (data of RCRM AMS of Ukraine)

| Group | Expected number of cases | Identified number of cases | Standardized incidence rates, SIR (%) | 95% confidence interval |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Clean-up workers, females | 100.2 | 279 | 278.5 | 245.8–311.2 |
| Evacuees from the 30-km zone | 254.1 | 198 | 77.9 | 67.1–88.8 |
| Female dwellers of radiation contaminated territories | 1153.1 | 756 | 65.6 | 60.9–70.2 |

The breast cancer incidence rate for evacuated females increased by 1.6-fold, but this value does not exceed national level.

Molecular-genetic studies conducted in the Urology Institute of the AMS of Ukraine jointly with the Medical University in Osaka (Japan) have shown that in 53% of investigated cases, mutation inactivation of the oncosuppressor gene p53 occurred; and in 96% of cases precancerous changes in the urothelia of the urinary bladder had developed among patients inhabitants of contaminated territories due to chronic long-term exposure over 14 years to low-dose ionising radiation. This has caused genetic instability which may lead to development of predominantly invasive forms of cancer of urinary bladder [6].

Genetic damage

Selective cytogenetic monitoring of critical groups of exposed Ukrainians has been conducted for twenty years after the accident.

In all the groups monitored during different post-accident periods, the rate of chromosome aberrations in peripheral blood lymphocytes (both integral and specific for ionising radiation exposure *in vivo*) significantly exceeded pre-accident indices characteristic for spontaneous chromosome mutagenesis [7]. An increased frequency rate of chromosome aberrations was found in children who had been exposed to combined ¹³¹I and ¹³⁷Cs radiation, especially on iodine-deficient territories. The influence of thyroid pathology on induction of chromosome non-stability in human somatic cells was demonstrated [8]. A deferred cytogenetic effect has been found in successive cell generations in the progeny of irradiated parents proving for real transmission of chromosome non-stability [9].

At the remote period after the accident an inadequate response of the chromosome apparatus to testing mutagenic burden *in vitro* as an adaptive response of the children of contaminated territories and genome non-stability in clean-up workers with significant individual variation were revealed [9].

A statistically significant 1.6-fold increase in the rate of mutations in minisatellite DNA loci of children due to preconception exposure of parents was found. Irradiation of mothers did not result in increasing mutation of minisatellite DNA loci of germ-line cells [10].

5.1.4. Deterministic effects

Acute radiation syndrome

Acute radiation syndrome (ARS) is a universally recognised deterministic consequence of the Chernobyl NPP accident. After the in-depth retrospective analysis (in 1989) of the case histories of 237 persons who had been diagnosed in 1986 as ARS, the real number of affected people with such diagnosis dropped to 134 persons. Among them, 28 patients died in the first three months after the accident; 14 died during the first 15 years, and 16 more died in the following years (data on the January 1st, 2006) despite continuous follow-up, regular treatment and rehabilitation measures (Fig. 5.1.3).

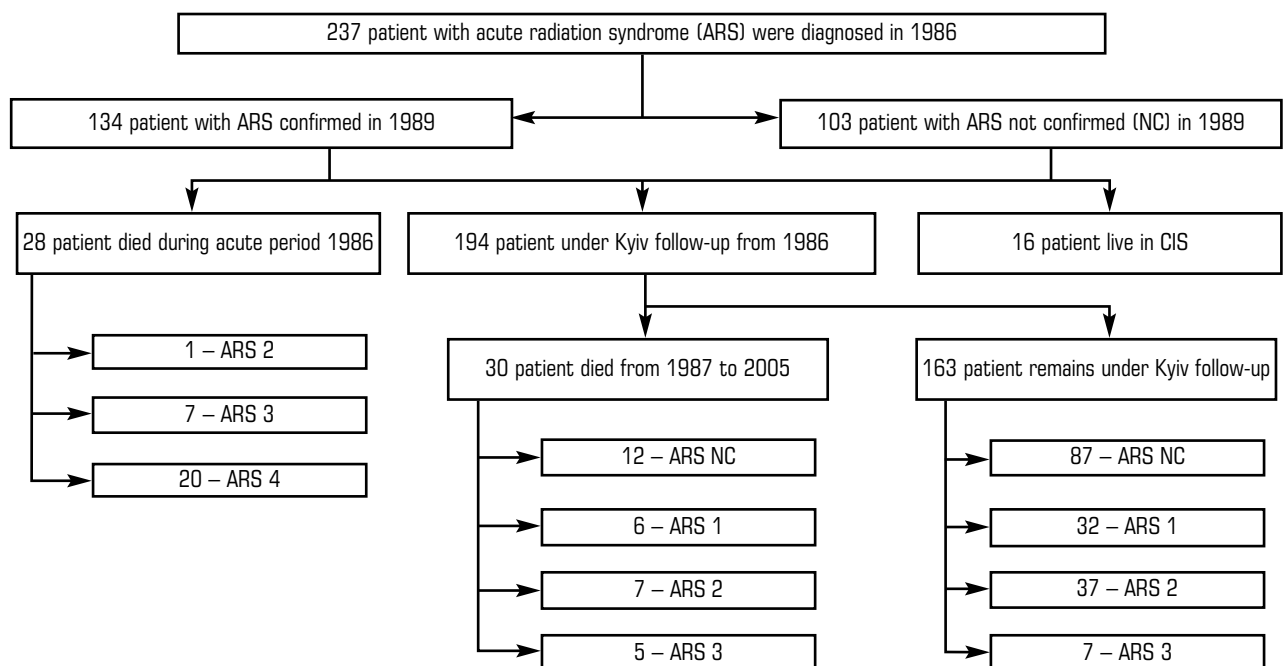


Fig. 5.1.3. Number of patients under follow-up examination in Kyiv (RCRM) that changes due to their death

Those people who have endured ARS and remain alive are suffering from chronic diseases of internal organs and systems (from 5–7 to 10–12 diagnoses concurrently), originating from the combined influence of different harmful agents associated with the Chernobyl accident, primarily radiation exposure. The somatic pathology of these affected people is characterised by an initially high and stable level of nervous system diseases, significant inflammation and erosive-ulcer processes in the gastrointestinal tract, and a progressive increase in the incidence of hepato-biliary, cardiovascular and respiratory system diseases.

For the majority of these people, typical radiation associated problems include the development of radiation cataracts (the incidence rate of which depends on the absorbed radiation dose), and the consequences of radiation burns of the skin with different grades of severity (in 1/3 of the sufferers). Burn problems range from radiation dermatitis in small areas and depth lesions up to the amputation of a limb in one of the patients.

Practically all people with ARS, irrespective of its severity, were assigned to group II of disability due to stable losses of working capacity involving both low levels of health indices and impossibility to work as a professional nuclear industry worker or fire fighter. The majority of these people annually, or more often (depending on their health condition), undergo in-patient follow-up and treatment in the clinic of the RCRM AMS of Ukraine.

5.1.3. 確率論的影響

子どもたちの甲状腺がん

子どもたちの甲状腺がんの増加が 1989 年に始まりました。ウクライナ医科学アカデミー（AMS）内分泌学代謝研究所のデータによると、1989 年から 2004 年までの間にウクライナだけで、事故当時子どもか未成年だった 3,400 人が甲状腺がん手術を受けています。

その内の 11 人が死にました。2001 年に 369 件の新しい甲状腺がんが報告され、2002 年、2003 年、2004 年にはそれぞれ 311 件、337 件、374 件ありました。これは罹患率が横ばい状態になって近い将来にははっきりと下降することはないことを示しています。

甲状腺がん患者治療のほぼ 99% に昇る短期的な有効性にもかかわらず、その後の長期に亘る甲状腺ホルモンによる代替療法が必要なために彼らの長期的な生活の質は低下するでしょう。肉体的および生理的能力減退そして生殖機能障害です。彼らは将来国からの医療援助が必要になるでしょう。

放射線被曝した大人の甲状腺がん

2001 年以降医学会は、専門家によって予想されていた 1986 年から 1987 年までの清掃作業員たちに甲状腺がんが多発したことを記録しています。男性では、1990 年から 1997 年までに全国レベルの 4 倍になり、1998 年から 2004 年までには 9 倍になりました。女性の清掃作業員では、それぞれ 9.7 倍と 13 倍でした。

2001 年には予想されていなかった他のモニターグループにも、同様な増加が認められています。

- 避難者たちでは、全国レベルに比較して、1990 年から 1997 年までに 4 倍。

- 1998 年から 2004 年までは 6 倍。

- 放射線汚染地域内の成人居住者では、増加は 1980 年から 1989 年に比較して、1990 年から 2004 年は 4.1 倍、全国レベルに比較すると 1.6 倍になっています。[4]

子どもと若者と大人に対する放射性ヨウ素フォールアウト（放射性降下物）レベルと甲状腺がん数の関係が初めて示されました。これから数年間甲状腺がんの数が増加することが予想されています。

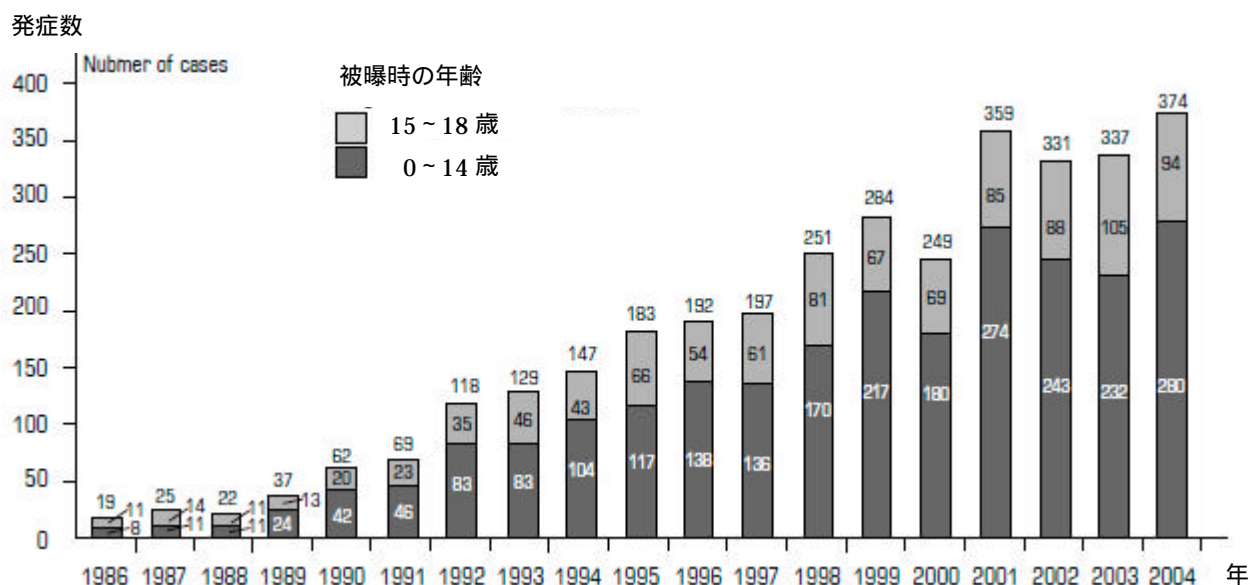


図5.2 ウクライナの子どもと青年の甲状腺がん発症数（チェルノブイリ事故当時0～18歳）（ウクライナ医科学アカデミー（AMS）のコミサレンコ副代表命名の内分泌学代謝研究所のデータ）

表5.1.1 1990～2004年にウクライナで影響を受けた異なるグループの甲状腺がん(ICD9 193)発症数の標準増加率（ウクライナ医科学アカデミーのデータ）

| グループ | 予想発症数 | 実際の発症数 | 標準発症率（％） | 95％信頼区間 |
|---------------|-------|--------|----------|---------------|
| 清掃作業員 | 28.1 | 156 | 554.3 | 467.3 - 641.3 |
| 30 km区域からの避難者 | 31.1 | 175 | 563.5 | 480.0 - 647.0 |
| 汚染地域の居住者 | 151.5 | 247 | 163.1 | 142.7 - 183.4 |

白血病

事故後 15 年間で極めて高い放射線被曝をした清掃作業員に白血病が増加する傾向が見られました。134 人の急性放射線疾患(ARS)からの回復期患者のうち、5 人の血液ガン患者が発病後まもなく死亡しています。

1986 年から 2000 年までのウクライナの 110,645 人の清掃作業員グループの内、チェルノブイリ事故汚染除去ウクライナ・米国共同プロジェクトで働いていた国際専門家グループは、101 件の白血病を確認しています。その内、慢性リンパ芽球性白血病が 49 件、慢性骨髄性白血病が 15 件、急性白血病が 18 件、

多粒状リンパ球白血病が4件になっています。[5]

リスク調査は白血病発症率の増加する可能性を示しています。(表 5.1.2)

表 5.1.2 被爆後15年間の白血病リスク(ウクライナ・米国白血病調査共同プロジェクトのデータ、2005年11月)

| 白血病の種類 | 相対過剰リスク ERR* | 95%信頼区間 | 確率レベル |
|--|-----------------|---------------|-------|
| 清掃作業員の あらゆる種類の白血病 | 2.41 | 0.11 - 7.54 | 0.03 |
| 清掃作業員の あらゆる種類の白血病 (慢性リンパ性白血病を除く) | 3.22 | -0.61 - 12.89 | 0.041 |
| 清掃作業員のあらゆる種類の 慢性リンパ性白血病 | 1.55 | -0.67 - 7.93 | 0.306 |
| 原爆被曝者の あらゆる種類の白血病 (慢性リンパ性白血病を除く) | 4.55 | 2.83 - 7.07 | 0.01 |

*誕生年と居住地による標準指数

フランス・ドイツによるチェルノブイリ共同調査プロジェクトでは、放射線核種によって汚染された地域住民に白血病の増加は見出されませんでした。

子宮内で被爆した子どもたちの白血病データは矛盾しているので今後の実証が必要です。

他の悪性腫瘍性疾患率

18年間の分析調査の結果、明らかなガンの発症増加は清掃作業員だけに限られ、他の被曝グループではガンの発症率がウクライナ全体の数よりはるかに低くなっています(表 5.1.3)。これらのデータは初期の予想と一致します。しかし、悪性腫瘍は被曝から40年後に発症するので、将来発症数と死亡率が変化しないとは必ずしも言えません。

表 5.1.3 1990～2004年ウクライナで被曝した異なるグループのあらゆるタイプのガン標準発症率(ウクライナ医科学アカデミーのデータ)

| グループ | 予想発症数 | 確認発症数 | 標準発症率 SIR(%) | 95%信頼区間 |
|--------------|---------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| 清掃作業員 | 4529 | 4922 | 108.70 | 105.6 - 111.7 |
| 30km地域からの避難者 | 2615 | 2182 | 83.40 | 79.9 - 86.9 |
| 放射線汚染地域居住者 | 13211.6 | 11221 | 84.90 | 83.4 - 86.5 |

1986～1987年の女性清掃作業員の乳ガン率が、1990～2004年に明らかにさ

れたウクライナの女性人口の同じ年齢グループのレベルと比較して 1.9 倍の増加になっていることが不安をかき立てています。(表 5.1.4)

表 5.1.4 1990～2004 年ウクライナの被曝した女性の異なるグループの乳ガン標準発症率（ウクライナ医科学アカデミーのデータ）

| グループ | 予想発症数 | 確認発症数 | 標準発症率 SIR(%) | 95%信頼区間 |
|---------------|--------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| 清掃作業員 女性 | 100.2 | 279 | 278.5 | 245.8? 311.2 |
| 30km 地域からの避難者 | 254.1 | 198 | 77.9 | 67.1? 88.8 |
| 放射線汚染地域女性居住者 | 1153.1 | 756 | 65.6 | 60.9? 70.2 |

避難した女性の乳ガン率は 1.6 倍増加しましたが、これは全国レベルを超えるものではありません。

ウクライナ医科学アカデミー泌尿器研究所が日本の医学大学と共同で行った分子遺伝調査研究では、調査した件数の 53% でガン抑制遺伝子 P53 の突然変異不活性化が起きました。また、96% では、低レベル電離放射線への 14 年以上の慢性的で長期的な被曝によって、汚染地域の居住患者の膀胱の尿路上皮に前ガン性変異が発症していました。これによって遺伝的な不安定性が引き起こされ、結果的に浸潤性膀胱ガンが発症する可能性があります [6]。

遺伝的影響

深刻な被曝をしたウクライナ人グループの選択的な細胞遺伝学的モニタリングが事故後 20 年間実施されました。

事故後の異なる期間にモニタリングしたすべてのグループで、末梢血リンパ球中の染色体異常率（生体内電離放射線被曝に対する全体及び特定の）が事故前の自然染色体突然変異生成に対する特異指数を大きく上回っています[7]。特にヨウ素不足地域で、ヨウ素 131 とセシウム 137 の両方に被曝した子どもたちに、染色体の突然変異の振動率増加が見られます。甲状腺異常による人間の体細胞中の染色体不安定性への影響が提示されています[8]。細胞遺伝学的影響が後になって、被曝した親の子孫につづく世代の細胞生成に現れています。それによって染色体の非安定化が実際に遺伝することが実証されています。事故後ずいぶん経ってから、汚染地域の子どもの適応反応と清掃作業員のゲノム非安定性として、生体中の染色体突然変異テスト用装置の不十分な反応のために非常に大きな個人差が生じました[9]。両親の受胎前の被曝によって子どもたちのミニサテライト DNA 遺伝子座の突然変異率が統計学的に大きな 1.6 倍の増加をしていることが分かりました。母親の被曝からは、生殖系列細胞のミニサテライト DNA 遺伝子座の突然変異の増加はありませんでした。