

# Calculation of Internal Radiation Dose due to Acute Ingestion of <sup>60</sup>Co by Adopting HATM Model

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## Abstract

Activity of radionuclide, absorbed dose, committed equivalent dose, committed effective dose due to acute intake of 1 Bq of <sup>60</sup>Co through ingestion have been calculated by using locally developed software that has been prepared basing on the human alimentary tract model. Due to ingestion, maximum radiation dose is deposited in the alimentary tract, which consists of seven tissue compartments, e.g., OC, OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC. Tissue masses of alimentary tract for Bangladeshi people have been considered to calculate the abovementioned quantities for different age groups such as newborn, 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male and female) and adult (male and female). Regarding age the variation of absorbed dose, committed equivalent dose and committed effective dose follows the sequence: newborn > 1 yr > 5 yr > 10 yrs > 15 yrs > adult female > adult male.

**Index terms**— absorbed dose, committed equivalent, and committed effective dose, human alimentary tract model (HATM)

radioisotope production laboratory and research facility or during routine work at the workplaces with an unsealed radioisotope. That's why the authorities such as UNSCEAR [2], IAEA [3], and ICRP [4] develop radiation safety standards. Internal radiation dose cannot be measured directly; of course, some models are there. This can be used for assessment of internal radiation dose, based on the radioactivity by bioassay measurement and whole-body counting.

The present study describes a generic methodology for the calculation of internal radiation doses due to the acute intake of beta-emitting radionuclides through ingestion. Visual Basic language software has been developed. The software is userfriendly and is found to work well as desired. This software can comfortably be used for calculation of internal radiation doses due to the intake of radioisotopes through ingestion by radiation workers and the public at large.

The activity of radionuclide, absorbed dose, committed equivalent dose, committed effective dose due to acute intake of 1 Bq of <sup>60</sup>Co through ingestion have been calculated by using the software that has been prepared based on the HATM. Due to ingestion maximum radiation dose is deposited in the alimentary tract, which consists of seven tissue compartments, (RC) and Rectosigmoid Colon (RSC). Tissue masses of alimentary tract for Bangladeshi people have been considered to calculate the above-mentioned quantities for different age groups such as newborn, 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male and female) and adult (male and female).

## 1 a) The HATM

There are various ICRP, and MIRD models that are similar in terms of their assumption and defining equation. Contemporary internal dosimetry models began with the single compartment models of ICRP [5], and [6]. The MIRD methodology [7][8][9] and ICRP [10] and [11] developed the concept of source and target organs. ICRP [12] and ICRP [13] continue to refine to internal dosimetry model.

The new human alimentary tract model (HATM) [14] considers the movement of radionuclides Introduction adionuclides once entered into the body through different routes of entry [1] can't be eliminated. It gives out



## 5 c) Committed Equivalent Dose

The committed equivalent dose for each type of radiation is given by  $s_i S T SEE U S T H) (106.1)(13 ? \times \times \times = ? ? Sv$  (11)

Where  $s_U$  is the number of the transformation of  $j$  in  $S$  over the lifetime following intake of the radionuclide. This is the expression for the number of transformations in the various organs in the tract following ingestion of 1 Bq of activity.

Oral cavity:  $R OC OC U ? ? + = 1$  Esophagus:  $) ( (1 R EP R OC EP U ? ? ? ? + + =$  Stomach:  $) ( ) ( (1 R ST R EP R OC ST U ? ? ? ? ? ? ? + + + =$  Small intestine:  $) ( ) ( (1 B R SI R ST R EP R OC ST U ? ? ? ? ? ? ? + + + + =$  Left colon:  $) ( ) ( (1 R LC B R SI R ST R EP R OC LC U ? ? ? ? ? ? ? + + + + + =$  Right colon:  $) ( ) ( (1 R RC R LC B R SI R ST R EP R OC RC U ? ? ? ? ? ? ? + + + + + =$  Rectosigmoid colon:  $) ( ) ( (1 R RSC R RC R LC B R SI R ST R EP R OC RSC U ? ? ? ? ? ? ? + + + + + + =$  d) Committed Effective Dose

Committed effective dose for any organ of alimentary tract is the product of committed equivalent dose and tissue weighting factor  $i W H E \times ? = ) (? mSv$  (12)

Where  $W_i$  is the tissue weighting factor.

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## 7 Results and Discussion

Activity, absorbed dose, committed equivalent dose, and committed effective doses due to acute ingestion of 1 Bq of  $^{60}Co$ . Tissue masses of alimentary tract for Bangladeshi people have been considered to calculate the above-mentioned quantities for different age groups such as newborn, 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male and female) and adult (male and female).

## 8 a) Activity

Activity has been calculated at different compartments of HAT of the subjects of age groups: newborn, 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female) and adult (both male and female) and time elapsed as considered in the work is mostly 0.5 hr, 1 hr, 2 hrs, 4 hrs, 8 hrs, 12 hrs, 24 hrs and 48 hrs after the ingestion of the radionuclide.

Figs. ??-7 show the variation of activity in OC, OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC for all age groups. By studying the nature of the graphs, it is found that the tissues of all the seven organs (excepting oral cavity) show a tendency of rising of activity initially and subsequent falling. The radionuclide  $^{60}Co$  is absorbed in one organ, which is caused after the release of it from the previous organ. The significant aspects of the absorption in and release from these organs are described below:

The activity-time graph for  $^{60}Co$  has been constructed for the above-mentioned seven tissues of the alimentary tract. By studying the nature of the graphs it is found that the tissues of all the seven organs (excepting oral cavity) show a tendency of the rise of activity initially and subsequent falling.

Activity-versus-time graphs are plotted for OC (Fig. ??), OP (Fig. ??), and ST (Fig. ??). Fig. ?? shows that for OC, at around 0.001 hr after ingestion of the radionuclide, the activity reaches 0.97 Bq, and at 0.2hr after ingestion, it reaches to around  $2.47 \times 10^{-3}$  Bq. The observation (a sharp fall) can be accepted because OC is the first organ, and its transit time is very short.

The excreted radionuclide will then appear in the next tissue, e.g., OP. After the lapse of the time at OC, the activity in OP should show growth, and this is observed in work; the peak is found to appear at around 0.02 hrs after ingestion. The value in the OP attains the maximum value at this time, the calculated result and the rising rate being 0.19Bq and 9.5Bq/hr, respectively. The activity change with time shows a sharp fall. After 0.4hrs, the activity level reduces to  $3.07 \times 10^{-6}$  Bq. This time is also short, again possibly due to the low transit time of the organ.

The excreted radionuclide is then deposited in the later tissue, e.g., ST. Fig. ?? shows that for ST, the activity level reaches to the maximum value ( $=0.89Bq$ ) at 0.15hrs after ingestion. The rising-rate is 5.9Bq/hr. Then the activity level decreases exponentially. Finally, it reduces to a value of approximately  $1.97 \times 10^{-4}$  Bq at a time 10hrs after ingestion.

The excreted radionuclide from ST is then deposited in the later tissue, e.g., SI. Fig. ?? shows the pattern of change. In the case of SI, the maximum value of activity appears at about 1.2hrafter the ingestion; the maximum significance being 0.36 Bq. Then it falls, and in doing so, it takes a time of about 15hrs in total to reach the value of  $2.29 \times 10^{-5}$  Bq.

The radionuclide then goes to the next tissue, e.g., LC, and the pattern of retention in the organ is shown in Fig. ?? In LC, activity level rises to 5hrs after ingestion, which is remarkably different from that of the other organs. The maximum value attained is 0.73 Bq. During the falling down process, this organ takes a very long time, e.g., approximately 96 hrs to reach it of approximately  $4.2 \times 10^{-4}$  Bq.

Fig. ?? shows the variation of the activity with time for the organ RC. One may observe from the figure that in the case of RC, it rises up to attain the maximum value ( $=0.36$ ) in 15hrs of duration; the rising rate being 0.024Bq approximately. The activity value then continuously decreases, and after an elapse of 150 hrs, the

organ retains approximately  $6.31 \times 10^{-5}$  Bq of activity in total. The falling rate is guided by an approximately exponential function.

The RSC graph (Fig. ??) shows that up to around 27 hrs after ingestion, the activity rises, being significantly different from that of the other ones. The peak value is about 0.27Bq, the rising rate being 0.01Bq/hr. Then the activity level decreases exponentially. Around 180hrs, duration is necessary for the activity level to fall to the value of  $5.09 \times 10^{-5}$  Bq.

### 9 b) Absorbed Dose

Figs. 8-13 show the variation of absorbed dose in 0 to 48 hrs by OP, ST, SI, LC and RC organs for a new-born baby who is supposed to have ingested 1 Bq of the radionuclide  $^{60}\text{Co}$ . The absorbed dose in OP decreases very rapidly, its value becoming practically insignificant after around 0.4 hours. The absorbed dose in OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC increases exponentially (approximately) and then decreases. This pattern of variation is expected mainly because of the biological excretion phenomenon. Of course, the effect of radioactive half-life is also active in these cases.

The maximum absorbed dose per Bq intake of  $^{60}\text{Co}$

is found to be  $1.4 \times 10^{-11}$ ,  $1.95 \times 10^{-11}$ ,  $1.84 \times 10^{-12}$ ,  $1.60 \times 10^{-11}$ ,  $7.89 \times 10^{-12}$ , and  $1.38 \times 10^{-11}$  mSv in the compartments of OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC respectively. The maximum absorbed dose in OP occurs quickly after the process of intake. Similar results are found for all the other age groups: 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female), adult (male) and adult (female). The absorbed dose in different parts of the human alimentary tract for the adult (male) is found to be the lowest because of the relatively larger tissue

### 10 c) Committed Equivalent Dose

Figs. [14][15][16] show the variation of committed equivalent dose in OP, LC, ST, SI, RC, and RSC for eight different age groups of people due to ingestion of the radionuclide  $^{60}\text{Co}$ . The equivalent dose is the maximum in the case of subjects of new-born age group. Then it decreases as age increases; its value is becoming almost the same for 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female), adult (male), and adult (female) because of their having approximately similar body mass [16].

The maximum committed equivalent dose per Bq intake of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  is found to be  $3.07 \times 10^{-9}$ ,  $9.21 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $2.08 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $2.59 \times 10^{-7}$ ,  $2.59 \times 10^{-7}$ , and  $6.05 \times 10^{-7}$  mSv for OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC respectively. Fig. ??? shows the variation of committed equivalent dose in OP, LC, ST, SI, RC, and RSC for a particular age group of subjects, e.g., newborn child. The committed equivalent dose has a minimum value in OP due to a very tiny number of transformations (only 40) occurring there. In the next organ, e.g., ST, this value rises due to its larger number of transformations. In SI, this value is again decreasing due to its larger mass. In LC and RC, this value is almost the same because of their equal mass and transformation number. In RSC committed equivalent dose is maximum due to its lowest mass. For age groups: 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female), adult (male), and adult (female) similar results are found.

The variation of committed effective dose in the organs OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC for the different age groups of people due to the ingestion of the radionuclide  $^{60}\text{Co}$  is shown in Figs. 18-20. As expected, the committed effective dose is the maximum in case of a subject of new-born age group. Then it decreases as age increases; its value is becoming almost the same for 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female), adult (male) and adult (female) subjects because of their having close body mass.

The maximum committed effective dose per gram intake of  $^{60}\text{Co}$  is found to be  $1.22 \times 10^{-10}$ ,  $1.10 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $2.41 \times 10^{-9}$ ,  $3.11 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $3.11 \times 10^{-8}$ , and  $7.26 \times 10^{-8}$  mSv for OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC respectively. In the case of a new-born baby, the variation of committed effective dose in the organs OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC is given in Fig. ??1.

Committed Effective dose has a minimum value in OP due to a very tiny number of transformations. In the next organ e.g., ST this value is rising due to its greater number of transformations. In SI, this value is again decreasing due to its larger mass. In LC and RC this value is almost the same because of their equal mass and transformation number. In RSC, committed equivalent dose is the maximum due its lowest mass.

Similar results are found for subjects of age groups: 1 yr, 5 yrs, 10 yrs, 15 yrs (male), 15 yrs (female), adult (male), and adult (female).

## 11 IV.

## 12 Conclusion

Due to ingestion, maximum radiation dose is deposited in the alimentary tract, which consists of seven tissue compartments, e.g., OC, OP, ST, SI, LC, RC, and RSC. The transfer of radionuclides from the oral cavity to the esophagus has been considered an instantaneous process that gives less retention but activity in the entry route.

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Regarding age, the variation of absorbed dose, committed equivalent dose, and committed effective dose follows the sequence: Newborn > 1 yr > 5 yr > 10 yrs > 15 yrs > adult female > adult male.

c. Absorbed dose for an alpha-emitting radionuclide is higher than beta-emitting radionuclides due to higher radiation weighting factor ( $w_R$ ).

d. The absorbed dose, committed equivalent, and committed effective dose show a common tendency that these values are maximum for a subject of newly born age group; then, it decreases as the age increases for all the radionuclides of interest.

e. Regarding compartment the trends of variation of maximum absorbed dose are: ST > LC > OP > RSC > RC > SI

f. Regarding tissue compartments the variation pattern of committed equivalent dose is: RSC > LC > RC > ST > SI > OP

g. The highest committed effective dose per Bq intake for each radionuclide is found in the alimentary tract of a newborn baby. These values for stomach are  $3.72 \times 10^{-6}$  mSv/Bq,  $2.16 \times 10^{-6}$  mSv/Bq,  $8.64 \times 10^{-6}$  mSv/Bq.

Figure 1:

215 The following important observations could be made from the study: a. <sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>

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