

Dear Sigurdur

The following one additional comment has been submitted to JHPS. The deadline for IRPA feedback has passed at this moment, but we would like to pass on this for your information.

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(b. Specific comments (on ICRP paper 4.1))

Pub 147 proposes the use of absorbed dose (Gy) to control the dose to individual organs and tissues in avoiding or minimising tissue reactions. Since radiation workers have historically been controlled by effective dose and equivalent dose, applying the proposals of Pub 147 would result in a loss of continuity of individual dose data. In addition, ICRU Report 95 changes the evaluation method of operational quantities, which would also vary the dose for radiation control purposes. A change in the unit of dose, or in the method of evaluation, would entail confusion about radiation risks as well as cost burdens, such as changing or updating systems and software, and some organisations in North America have decided not to change from Rem to Sv in order to avoid confusion in the past. Therefore, specific advice from ICRP would be desirable to show how to correct such inconsistencies, which will be a consequence by changes in the unit of dose and in the evaluation method.

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Best regards

International Correspondence Committee of JHPS