

Researchers provide prospective on low-dose radiation biology controversy

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A review of the current issues in low-dose radiation research authored by two radiation biologists from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is the cover story of the May 2013 issue of *Radiation Research*. The review, by Laboratory Fellow Dr. William F. Morgan and retired PNNL scientist Dr. William J. Bair, highlights critical areas of controversy in low-dose radiation biology, and suggests areas of future research to address these issues.

In "Issues in Low <u>Dose Radiation</u> Biology: The Controversy Continues.



A Perspective," the authors reiterate that exposure to ionizing radiation, both natural and man-made, is a fact of life. The Fukushima <u>nuclear</u> <u>power plant</u> disaster in 2011; the debate over the future of nuclear power; and the increasing use of radiation in medicine, agriculture, the military, national security, research, and industry has focused attention on health and safety issues associated with potential exposures to low-dose, low-dose-rate ionizing radiation.

The <u>target audience</u> of the article is interested investigators. However, Morgan and Bair believe it will help government regulators, policy makers, and funding agencies understand why this is a critical time to address concerns associated with low-dose radiation exposures and the nations ability to deal with them in a rational, scientifically based manner.

More information: Morgan WF and WJ Bair. 2013. Issues in Low Dose Radiation Biology: The Controversy Continues. A Perspective. *Radiation Research* 179, 501-510. DOI: 10.1667/RR3306.1

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