

## Kansas Radiation Control Program

### Population Monitoring and the Community Reception Center (CRC)

Population monitoring is the responsibility of local and state agencies. After a radiation incident, citizens may be concerned about possible radiological contamination. Local health departments will activate a Community Reception Center (CRC) to perform population monitoring and decontamination activities as needed. This will alleviate the influx of citizens to area hospitals.

### Radiological Incidents

- A nuclear/radiological incident may result from a deliberate act, an accident, or general mismanagement, and may center around different materials or industrial practices, including:
- Commercial nuclear facilities
- Federal nuclear weapons facilities
- Radioactive material sources, industrial uses, or technologically enhanced, naturally occurring radioactive material
- Transportation incidents involving nuclear/radioactive material
- Domestic nuclear weapons accidents
- Foreign incidents involving nuclear or radioactive materials
- Terrorism involving facilities or nuclear/radiological materials, including use of radiological dispersal devices (RDDs) or improvised nuclear devices (INDs)<sup>i</sup>

### Population Monitoring

Population monitoring is a process that begins soon after a radiation incident is reported and continues until all potentially affected people have been monitored and evaluated for:

- Needed medical treatment
- The presence of radioactive contamination on the body or clothing
- The intake of radioactive materials into the body
- The removal of external or internal contamination (decontamination)
- The radiation dose received and the resulting health risk from the exposure
- Long-term health effects<sup>ii</sup>

### Community Reception Centers (CRCs)

Community Reception Centers will be requested by local emergency management after a radiation incident. Local health departments will have a predetermined location to activate the CRC. Different organizations work together to perform population monitoring, decontamination if necessary, and establish an exposure registry to track long-term health effects. Life threatening conditions always take precedence over radiologic contamination and will be referred immediately to a local hospital. Areas of the CRC include:

- Initial Sorting
- First Aid
- Contamination Screening
- Decontamination
- Registration
- Discharge

Monitoring and decontamination of vehicles and pets will take place outside of the facility.

Setting up the facility, roles and responsibilities, standard operating procedures, job aids, supplies and forms can be found in the Kansas Standard Operating Guide (SOG) for the Radiation Incident Community Reception Center.

### Learn More

To learn more about radiation in Kansas and link to other resources, visit the website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/index.html>. Or contact Jessica Snook [jsnook@kdheks.gov](mailto:jsnook@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-6342.

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<sup>i</sup> Federal Emergency Management Agency. *National Response Framework. Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex*. 2008. Retrieved from [http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nrf/nrf\\_nuclearradiologicalincidentannex.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nrf/nrf_nuclearradiologicalincidentannex.pdf)

<sup>ii</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Radiation Emergencies*. Retrieved from <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/>