

### III Risk Coefficients

At the time the Becker book was prepared no agency in the U.S. Government had accepted the risk coefficients in BEIR-III. Thus we were constrained to use risk coefficients from BEIR-II which were not included in the printed book, risk estimates in BEIR-III were calculated for comparison purposes. The following gives the origin of the risk coefficient used.

#### A. BEIR-I

##### I. Cancer (Tables 3-3 and 3-4)

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Derived

Cancer Deaths/ $10^6$  person re-

Cancer Deaths/year in U.S.  
from 0.1 rem/year  
(pop=197,863,000)

	<u>Absolute</u>	<u>Relative</u>	<u>Absolute</u>	<u>Relative</u>
Leukemia	516	738	26	37
Other Cancers				
30 year elevated risk	1,210	2,436	61	123
lifetime elevated risk	1,485	8,340	75	421
Range	1,726-2,001	3,174-9,078	87-101	160-458

From the above the minimum estimate of cancer risk would be given by a risk coefficient of  $87/10^6$  person rem and the maximum by  $458/10^6$  person rem. Thus, these two risk coefficients were used to define a range of estimated cancer deaths.

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FOLDER	<u>Calculations</u>

defects per year (3.6 million births/year) =

or 3 times this amount at equilibrium. The 1800 cases represent an increase of 0.05% incidence per year first generation & 0.25% at equilibrium there would be

In addition ~~a few chromosomal defects and recessive diseases and a few congenital defects due to single gene defects and chromosome aberrations~~

The Total incidence ~~at equilibrium~~ is 1/100 to 27,000/year. Then at equilibrium ~~75%~~ ~~at equilibrium~~ the maximum would be 0.75% or (0.15% in the first generation).

These are equivalent to 0.15% per rem at equilibrium 0.03% from in the first generation.

#### b. Result on Overall ill health.

Overall ill health: 5% - 50% of ill health is proportional to mutation rate

Using 20% and doubling dose of 20 rem, 5 rem per generation  $\rightarrow$  5% increase in ill health. would eventually lead to a

This ~~at equilibrium~~ the rate of overall ill health is 1%/rem at equilibrium or 0.2% from an first generation.

~~rem in first generation, the projected increase~~  
~~will be about 10% per generation.~~  
~~We started to see the committee~~  
recognizing that it was probably very conservative

B. BEIR-III  
1. Cancer (Table V-4)

Lifetime Risk of Cancer Death  
(deaths/ $10^6$ /rad)

Model	Single exposure to 10 rad		Continuous Exposure to 1 rad/yr	
	Absolute	Relative	Absolute	Relative
L-Q, LQ-L	77	226	67	182
L-L, L-L	167	501	158	430
Q-L, Q-L	10	28	----	----

2. Birth Defects--pages 166-169  
(mean parental age = 30 years)

1 rem per generation (1 rem parental exposure) per  $10^6$  live offspring  $\rightarrow$  5 to 75 birth defects, this is 0.0005--0.0075%--First generation

Since the spontaneous rate is 10.7%, thus 1 rem will increase the rate from 10.7% to 10.7005--10.7075%

In terms of percent increase the spontaneous rate ~~the~~ 1 rem per generation since  $\frac{0.0005}{10.7} = 0.000047 = 0.0047\%$  increase

$$\frac{0.0075}{10.7} = 0.0007 = 0.07\% \text{ increase}$$