Evaluation of *In Utero* Doses from Maternal Ingestion of Strontium Radioisotopes at the Techa River

Natalia Shagina, Evgenia Tolstykh and Marina Degteva Urals Research Center for Radiation Medicine, Chelyabinsk, Russia

> John Harrison and Tim Fell Health Protection Agency, Chilton, Didcot, UK

Wesley Bolch and Matthew Maynard University of Florida, Gainesville, USA

Contamination of the Techa River in 1950s (Southern Urals, Russia)



Pathways of internal exposure for the Techa River population

River water – an essential source of <u>drinking water</u> in most villages Locally produced foodstuffs – milk, meat, vegetables, etc.



Muslyumovo (78 km from release site)

Maternal ingestion of Sr isotopes lead to in utero exposure of offspring

Sr isotopes easily transfer through placenta during pregnancy and are retained in foetal tissues (predominantly skeleton)



Methodology for *in utero* dose evaluation consists of the three major steps



Quantification of time dependent <u>amount</u> of Sr isotopes <u>ingested</u> by a mother

Quantification of <u>retention</u> of Sr isotopes in foetal tissues as a result of transfer from a mother

Quantification of the <u>energy</u> <u>absorbed in foetal bone marrow</u> due to nuclear disintegrations in mineralized foetal bone

Reconstruction of ^{89,90}Sr intakes for the Techa River residents

⁹⁰Sr - from numerous ⁹⁰Sr measurements in human teeth and whole body (Tolstykh *et al* 2011)

⁸⁹Sr - using ⁸⁹Sr-to-⁹⁰Sr ratio in river water (Shagina *et al* 2012)



Comparison of dietary ⁹⁰Sr intake at the Techa River and in the United Kingdom (Papworth and Vennart 1984)

Maternal intakes of Sr radioisotopes

Intake of ^{89,90}Sr during pregnancy is increased due to increased nutritional and water requirements



Biokinetic model for strontium

ICRP-88 biokinetic model was adapted to the Techa River population by fitting to Russian and Urals data



Details are in presentation P02.81 by Shagina et al.

Dosimetry models for *in utero* exposure



11.5 week foetus image

11.5 week foetus phantom



21 week foetus image

21 week foetus phantom

Phantoms for 11.5 and 21 week foetuses were developed at University of Florida from CT and MRI images of foetal specimens

These phantoms were used to develop a series of all gestation ages (12-38 weeks)

Age-dependent dose per nuclear transformation for studied radionuclides



Dose in spongiosa is a surrogate for dose absorbed in foetal bone marrow

In-utero red bone marrow dose calculated for children born in Muslyumovo in 1950-1952



Comparison with estimates obtained with ICRP Publication 88 models



Application of the developed methodology in risk assessment

Methodology and models developed in this study provide dosimetric support for evaluation of solid cancer and leukaemia risk from protracted exposure in the Techa River *in utero* Exposed Cohort

The Cohort comprises 12,000 offspring with most cohort members exposed to ingested radionuclides (mainly Sr isotopes). Study of this cohort may provide valuable information on risks from exposures to internal emitters in early human life

Acknowledgements

Our research leading to these results received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement No. 249675

I would like to thank the Russian IRPA Associate Society for nominating me for a Young Professional Prize

Thank you for your attention!



