

Radiation Epidemiology and Biology Cross-talk

- Why are certain cancer sites not associated with radiation dose? – e.g., prostate cancer, rectal cancer
- What biological mechanisms are implicated in radiation-related cardiovascular disease in humans at low-moderate doses?
 - What biomarkers or measurements could be used to assess those mechanisms?
 - Roles of radiation to organs/tissues other than the heart – arteries, kidneys, pituitary, etc.?



Unanswered Questions about Radiation and Cataract

- Need more/better data on cataract risk after protracted exposures – risk magnitude, dose threshold, etc.
- Most radiation "cataract" data are based on screening studies, in which the preponderance of opacities detected are small, minor opacities.
 - We need more data on radiation and clinically-significant, visionimpairing cataracts
 - We need information on what fraction of small opacities progress to clinically-significant cataracts
- Are ATM or other genes in that pathway predictive of radiation-cataract risk in humans as they are in an animal model?