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Estimated the cancer risk due to ingestion of radon, radium, and uranium from medical drugs in Iraq

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In the present investigation, radon-222, radium-226, and uranium-238 concentration have been determined by SSNTD (LR-115 type 2) technique and evaluation of risk of an excess cancer fatality per million person (RECFPMP) due to ingestion of these radionuclides in medical drugs (solid, ointment and solution) derived from medicinal plants in Iraqi pharmacies. The average value of RECFPMP in solid, ointment and solution of drugs samples has been found 0.21, 0.15, and 0.27 respectively. Total annual average internal effective dose (AAIED) due to ingestion of 222Rn, 226Ra, and 238U in solid, ointment and solution of drugs samples under study has been found 55.07 nSv/y, 39.26 nSv/y and 69.48 nSv/y respectively. The value of AAIED and RECFPMP is much smaller than the ICRP 1995 and ICRP 1993 recommended safety limit for the public respectively. So, the intake of the studied samples of medical drugs in Iraq does due to alpha particles (Radon, Radium, and Uranium) not lead to substantial changes in the internal effective dose.

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