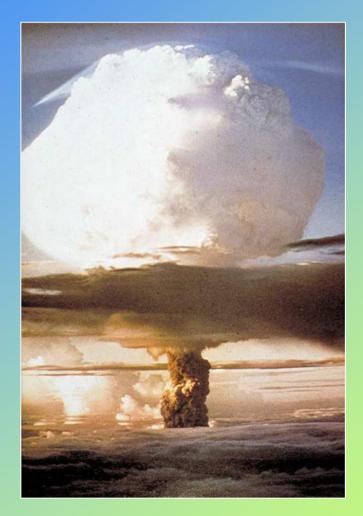
# Accidental exposure, clinical effects and their treatment



**RPR 2002** 

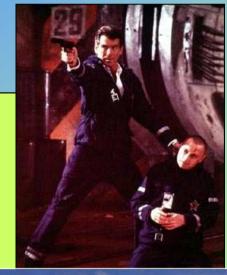


## Accident scenario?

- Industrial accident (source)?
  - Workers
  - Population
- Terrorism ?
- War?

ANINEBSIT

**NCL** 





#### Tissue effects.

« deterministic »

Cells are killed

Most tissues are not affected by some level of cell loss.

If the loss is large, the function will be affected.



A threshold exists: a minimal number of cell must be eliminated before and effect is observed « stochastic »

Cells are mutated

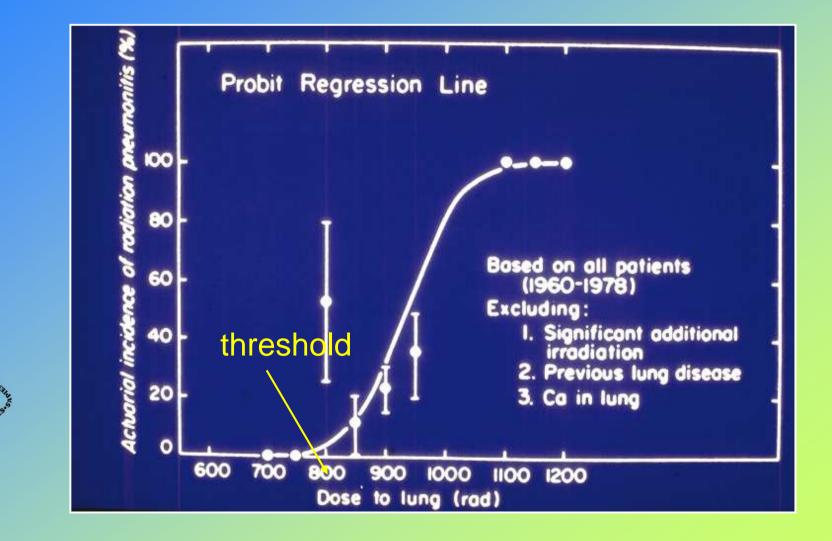
Genetic effects or cancer induction Frequency increases with dose; There is no threshold;

Severity does not depend on dose.

## Example of a deterministic effect: lung fibrosis.

ANIAEBAN

**UCL** 



#### Second cancer

- To be treated like any other cancer.
- Except that:
  - Tissues already irradiated.
  - Surgery might be difficult.
  - Overall prognosis equal or less...



#### Acute tissue effects



- Infrequent in radioprotection.
- Always linked to a severe accident.
  - Usually linked to a partial irradiation (except bone marrow).

- Peau : 15 Sv
- Moelle : 2,5-5 Sv
- Intestin : 5-12 Sv
- SNC : 100 Sv



#### Accidents

#### San Salvador, blocage source irradiateur industriel







Vol de source Co-60 en Thailande : 3 morts



Accident France linac industriel



- Risk = dose/time relationship.
- 4-5 Sv in a singleacute exposure maybe sufficient.
- Up to 20 Sv can be tolerated in protracted exposure (over years).

### **CNS** syndrom



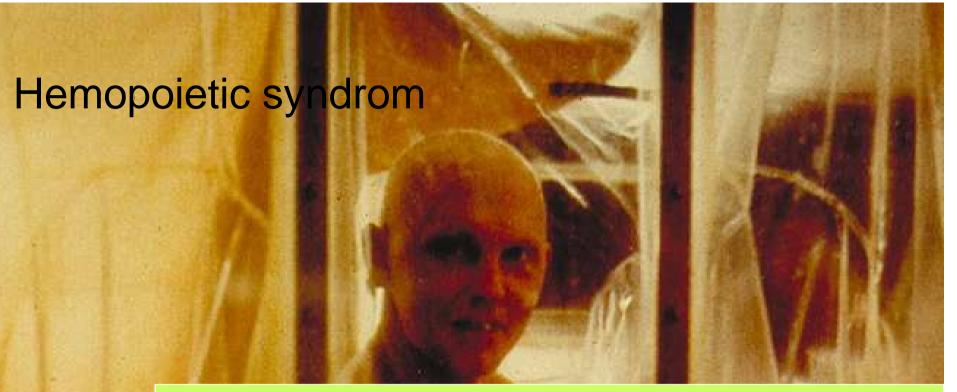
- In case of an accidental acute exposure of 100 Sv.
  - Fast deterioration of consciousness (a few h), forecasted by nausea, vomiting, and intense fatigue.

**K-19** 

Very seldom... (you see some in



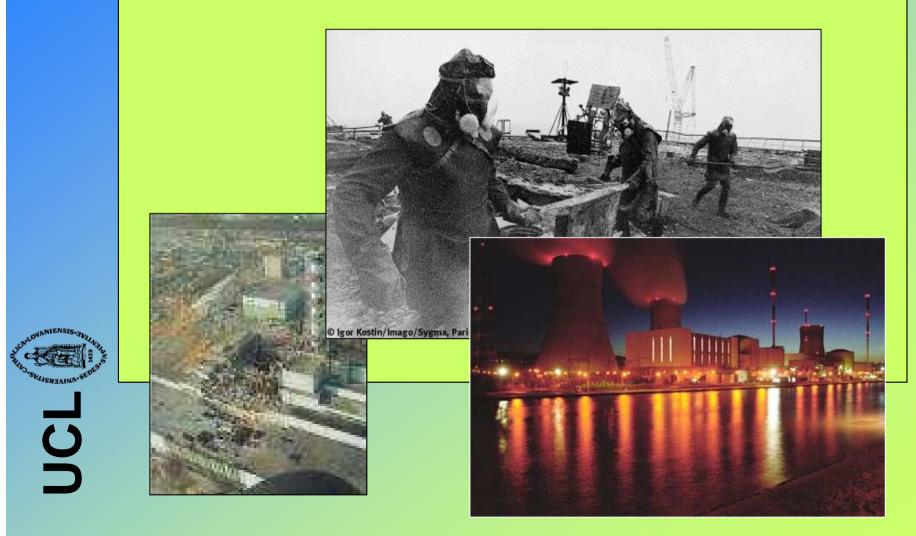
- Supposes an accidental exposure of at least 10 Sv.
- The victim may survive if part of the bowel was shielded.
- Diarrhea, blood loss and vomiting first, soon followed by septicemia.



- From 2,5 Sv.
- The victim may survive if part of the bone marrow was shielded.
- First haemorrhages, followed by infection
- Bone marrow transplant is the treatment.

#### **Internal** contamination

#### • Iodine 131 in nuclear catastrophe...



#### **Prophylaxy of iodine contamination**

- Iodine accumulates quickly in the thyroid (a few hours), by inhalation or by ingestion of contaminated food.
- Stable iodine delivered according to « action levels ».
  - Sould be available beforehand.





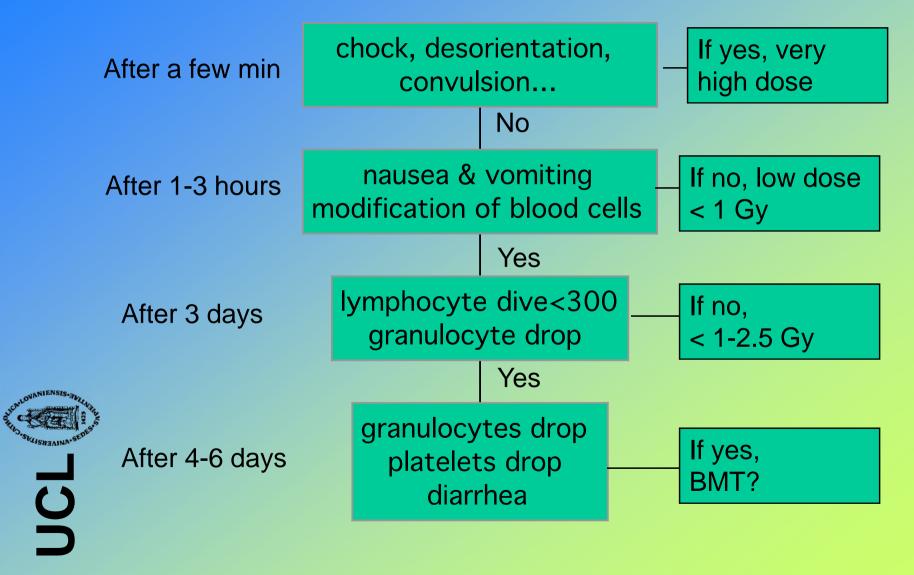
## **Biological dosimetry?**

- Usually an accident is not foreseen...
- Therefore the reconstruction of the conditions prevailing is not easy.
- Also, the actors do not always cooperate...





## **Dealing with an accident**

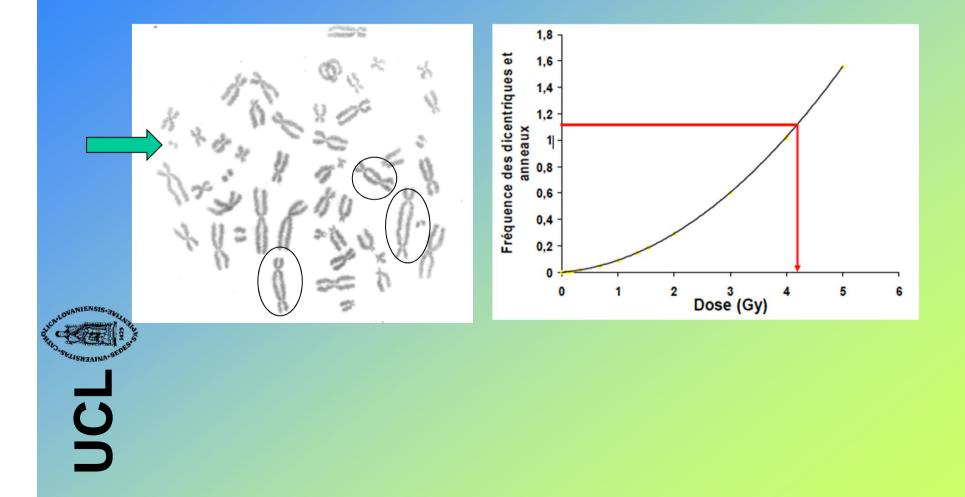


#### Accident Sterigenics 11 mars 2006

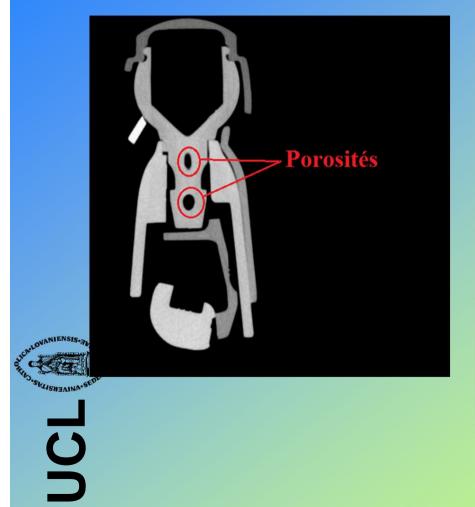
- Déclaré le 31 mars à l'AFCN!
- Un opérateur est entré dans la cellule d'irradiation pendant environ 20 sec. Par la suite, des nausées et une perte de cheveux l'amènent à consulter le médecin du travail 3 sem plus tard.
  - La dose serait de 4,4 à 4,8 Gy.



## Analyse sanguine



## Accident infraclinique





## **Induction of chromosomal aberrations**

