

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of Nuclear Medicine Staff towards Radiation Protection

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Introduction: Recent advancements in fields of medical occasioned in an expansion of imaging investigations with a use of radiation. Ionizing radiation in medical imaging is one of the dominant diagnostic tools, and correct knowledge of radiation protection will affect staff safety behaviors during examinations. Although ionizing radiation is effective in the diagnosis of illnesses, it is dangerous from the perspective of protection for patients and staff working in nuclear medicine centers. This study aimed to assess the radiation protection knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) amongst nuclear medicine center's staff in 12 provinces of Iran. **Material and Methods:** The present study is a cross-sectional one among 243 radiation workers employed amongst nuclear medicine center's staff in 12 provinces of Iran. A questionnaire was the means of evaluation which contained demographic information and questions about the knowledge, attitude, and practice of staff regarding the radiation protection. All of the completed questionnaires were analyzed, using SPSS software. **Results:** There was statistically significant differences in the radiation protection KAP level of staff with gender, practice age and different working region and healthcare market ($p < 0.05$). There is not significant connection between educational age and KAP level of radiation protection of nuclear medicine department staff ($p > 0.05$). **Conclusion:** Results have shown that radiation protection KAP level of nuclear medicine staff was inadequate in some region and healthcare market. So a national strategic program on radiation protection seems to be necessary. Such programs must be developed by ministry of health and radiation protection affairs of national atomic energy organization and its administration must be monitored permanently. **Keywords:** Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Radiation protection, Nuclear medicine staff