



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
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## Emergency Preparedness and Response



## Radiation Emergencies

CDC has a key role in protecting the public's health in an emergency involving the release of radiation that could harm people's health. This site provides information to help people protect themselves during and after such an event. It also provides information for professionals involved in planning for and responding to this type of emergency.



### CDC Responds to Earthquake, Tsunami, and Radiation Release in Japan

(<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2011/03/cdc-responds-to-earthquake-tsunami-and-radiation-release-in-japan/>)

On March 11, CDC immediately activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Atlanta to respond to the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami and radiation release in Japan. CDC continues to closely monitor the effects of this disaster and is focused on making sure it is ready to support any requests that come in from Japanese colleagues related to public health.

### Japan: Radiation and Health

- [Food Safety & Medical Products \(FDA\)](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm247403.htm) (<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm247403.htm>)
- [US Dept of Agriculture \(USDA\)](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=radiation_safety.html) ([http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=radiation\\_safety.html](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=radiation_safety.html))
- [Radioisotope Brief: Iodine-131 \(I-131\)](/radiation/isotopes/iodine/) (</radiation/isotopes/iodine/>)
- [Radioisotope Brief: Cesium-137](/radiation/isotopes/cesium/) (</radiation/isotopes/cesium/>)
- [Radiation Dictionary](/radiation/glossary.asp) (</radiation/glossary.asp>)

#### Fact Sheets

- [Iodine-131 Found in Surface Water](/radiation/isotopes/iodine131surfacewater.asp) (</radiation/isotopes/iodine131surfacewater.asp>)
- [Acute Radiation Syndrome \(ARS\)](/radiation/ars.asp) (</radiation/ars.asp>)
- [Potassium Iodide \(KI\)](/radiation/japan/ki.asp) (</radiation/japan/ki.asp>)
- [Prussian Blue](/radiation/prussianblue.asp) (</radiation/prussianblue.asp>)
- [All Fact Sheets >](http://emergency.cdc.gov/radiation/factsheets.asp) (<http://emergency.cdc.gov/radiation/factsheets.asp>)

### Japan: Info for Specific Groups

- [Travelers](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/content/2011-earthquake-tsunami-travel.aspx) (<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/content/2011-earthquake-tsunami-travel.aspx>)
- [Clinicians](/radiation/clinicians.asp) (</radiation/clinicians.asp>)
- [More groups...](/radiation/groups.asp) (</radiation/groups.asp>)

### Related Resources

- [What is CDC's Role in Emergencies?](http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/whatcdcisdoing.htm) (<http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/whatcdcisdoing.htm>)
- [U.S. Government Response to Japan Events \(USA.gov\)](http://www.usa.gov/Japan2011.shtml) (<http://www.usa.gov/Japan2011.shtml>)
- [Radiation Control Programs \(CRCPD\)](http://crcpd.org/Map/RCPmap.htm) (<http://crcpd.org/Map/RCPmap.htm>)
- [Recent Emergency Radiation Preparedness Conference](http://cdcradiationconference.org/) (<http://cdcradiationconference.org/>)

### [Your Health and Safety \(/radiation/healthandsafety.asp\)](/radiation/healthandsafety.asp)



**Protecting Yourself and Your Family**

Preparing for an emergency and what to do during an emergency (</radiation/protectyourself.asp>)



**Health Effects and Treatments**

Health effects such as acute radiation syndrome; potential treatments (potassium iodide, Prussian blue, DTPA, Neupogen) (</radiation/healtheffects.asp>)



**Radiation and Pregnancy**

Possible health effects of radiation on pregnant women (</radiation/prenatal.asp>)



**Types of Radiation Emergencies**

Terrorist events (such as dirty bombs and nuclear blasts) and unintentional emergencies (such as reactor accidents) (</radiation/typesofemergencies.asp>)

- Content source: National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) (<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/>) /Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>) , Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury and Environmental Health (<http://www.cdc.gov/about/organization/ccehip.htm>) , National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) (<http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/>) , National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) (<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/>)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1600 Clifton Rd. Atlanta, GA 30333, USA  
 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: (888) 232-6348, 24 Hours/Every Day - [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov)

