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Complications

By Mayo Clinic staff

Radiation sickness itself doesn't cause long-term medical problems for those who survive the illness. However, the radiation exposure that caused the immediate radiation sickness does significantly increase a person's risk of developing cancer later in life.

Having radiation sickness could also contribute to both short-term and long-term mental health problems, such as grief, fear and anxiety about:

- Experiencing a radioactive accident or attack
- Mourning friends or family who haven't survived
- Dealing with the uncertainty of a mysterious and potentially fatal illness
- Worrying about the eventual risk of cancer due to radiation exposure

Tests and diagnosis

Treatments and drugs

References

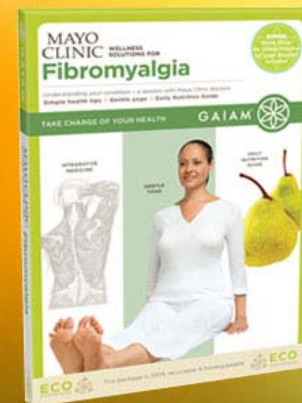
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