# BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

*All interested medical physicists are encouraged to have their names added to a list of available reviewers. Please rank your interest among radiation therapy, x-ray, imaging, nuclear medicine imaging, ultrasound imaging, MR imaging, radiation injury, radiation protection, and others. Make your interest known to Dimitris Mihailidis, Ph.D., Books Review Editor (dimitris@charlestonradiation.com). Include your name and e-mail address in the body of the response.*

**Responding to a Radiological or Nuclear Terrorism Incident: A Guide for Decision Makers.** NCRP Report No. 165, NCRP Publications, Bethesda, MD, 2010, 202 pp. (soft cover), Price: $75.00. ISBN: 978-0-9823843-3-6.

## Description

This report provides an up-to-date comprehensive summary of recommendations and key decision points for planners preparing responses to radiological or nuclear terrorism incidents. The report covers both nuclear terrorism and radiological terrorism planning, providing decision makers with an understanding of the differences while considering the probability that many plans will include both responses.

## Purpose

This report is meant to be guidance for individuals involved in the preparedness for radiological or nuclear terrorism incidents. It provides an overview of federal policy and guidance in this area and emphasizes the need to clearly build a local program based on these federal programs.

## Audience

This report is a notable source of information for anyone involved in planning for these incidents.

## Content/Features

The report provides information needed to protect the health and safety of emergency responders as well as members of the general public. It consolidates recommendations on key decision points; levels of radiation doses; dose rates at which a response should be initiated; and the nature, timing, and extent of the response. The primary sections include the following: Key Radiation Protection Principles, Radiological Terrorism Incident, Nuclear Terrorism Incident, and Preparing the Public Health and Medical System Response. There are six appendices that provide a plethora of supporting information.

## Assessment/Comparison

This report is well written and is presented in a very logical and easy to understand format. As with most NCRP reports, the information supplied is well referenced. I have been involved with emergency preparedness planning for more than 25 years and this is by far the best written guidance I have seen on this subject. I was surprised at how many new insights I got from reviewing this report and would highly recommend it to anyone involved in emergency preparedness planning.

*Reviewed by Dean Broga, Ph.D.*

*Dean Broga is a diagnostic medical physicist with over 30 years of applied experience. As Director of the Office of Environmental Health & Safety at Virginia Commonwealth University, he is involved in a wide variety of clinical and environmental issues. Dr. Broga has taught on both the graduate and undergraduate levels for over 25 years. He is active in Regional and State emergency preparedness for weapons of mass destruction and bioterrorism. His research activities have been involved with radiation dosimetry and kinetic modeling. He holds board certifications in Nuclear Medicine Physics (ABMP), Diagnostic Radiological Physics (ABR), and Comprehensive Health Physics (ABHP).*

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