

Revision of the chart on cancer mortality risk from radiation

The chart previously titled 'Increase in cancer and leukemia due to radiation' (Fig. 1), was updated on 27 Sep. 2011. In response to an inquiry, we here add information on the revised points and reasons for the revision.

Your comments and suggestions are appreciated as we try to provide you with a more comprehensible chart.

The revised points and reasons for the revision are as follows;

Revision ①: To clarify that this is the case for prolonged low-dose radiation exposure

Revision ②④: To make it easier to understand that the increase is due to radiation exposure

Revision ③: Although it is the consensus view within the International Radiological Protection Committee (ICRP) and other groups that there is no clear evidence of an increase in cancer when radiation exposure is below 100 mSv, we revised the articles in accordance with the possibility that exposure under 100 mSv can cause a small amount of DNA damage and perhaps cancer.

Revision ⑤: 'Life-style habits', which includes a broad range of activities including smoking, was replaced with 'diet' which is more specific and easier to understand. Also 'Germs' which can include things like infectious diseases, was replaced with 'air pollution' as a more specific factor that can cause cancer.

Revision ⑥: To avoid the possible misunderstanding that the axis title implies annual radiation dose

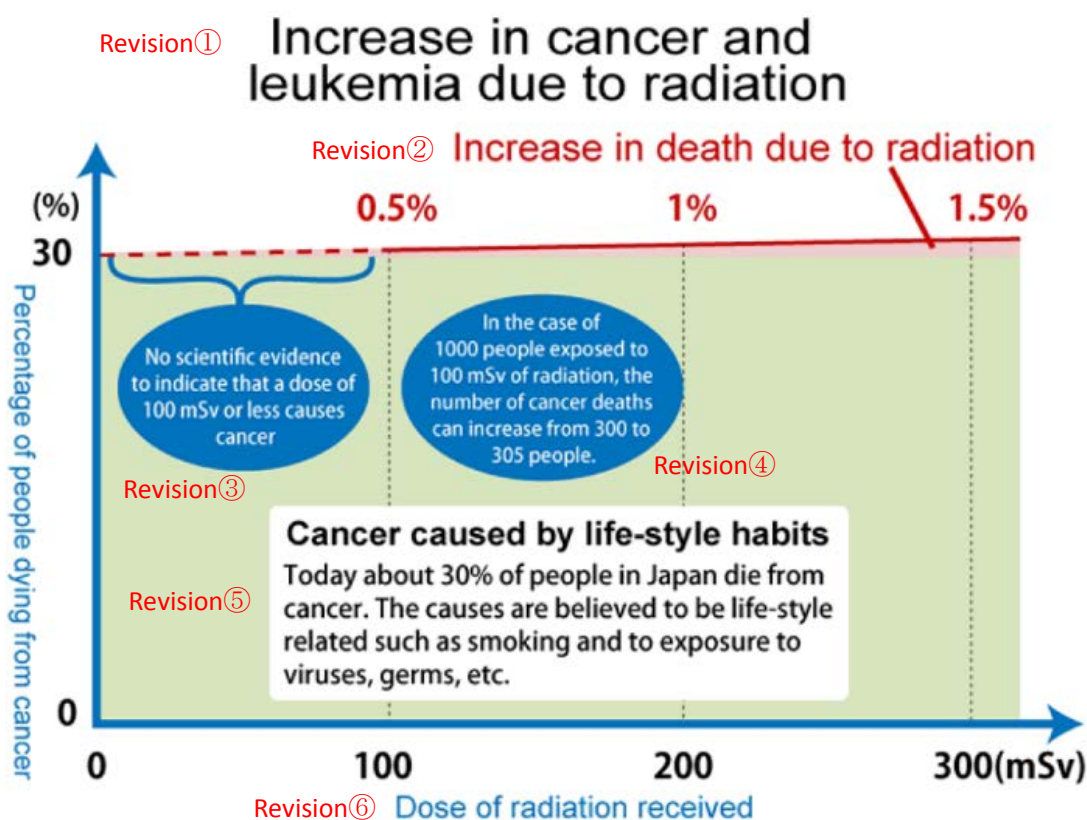


Fig 1. Before revision (From 1 July, 2011/ summary edition)

Cancer mortality caused by prolonged exposure to low dose radiation of up to 100 mSv per year

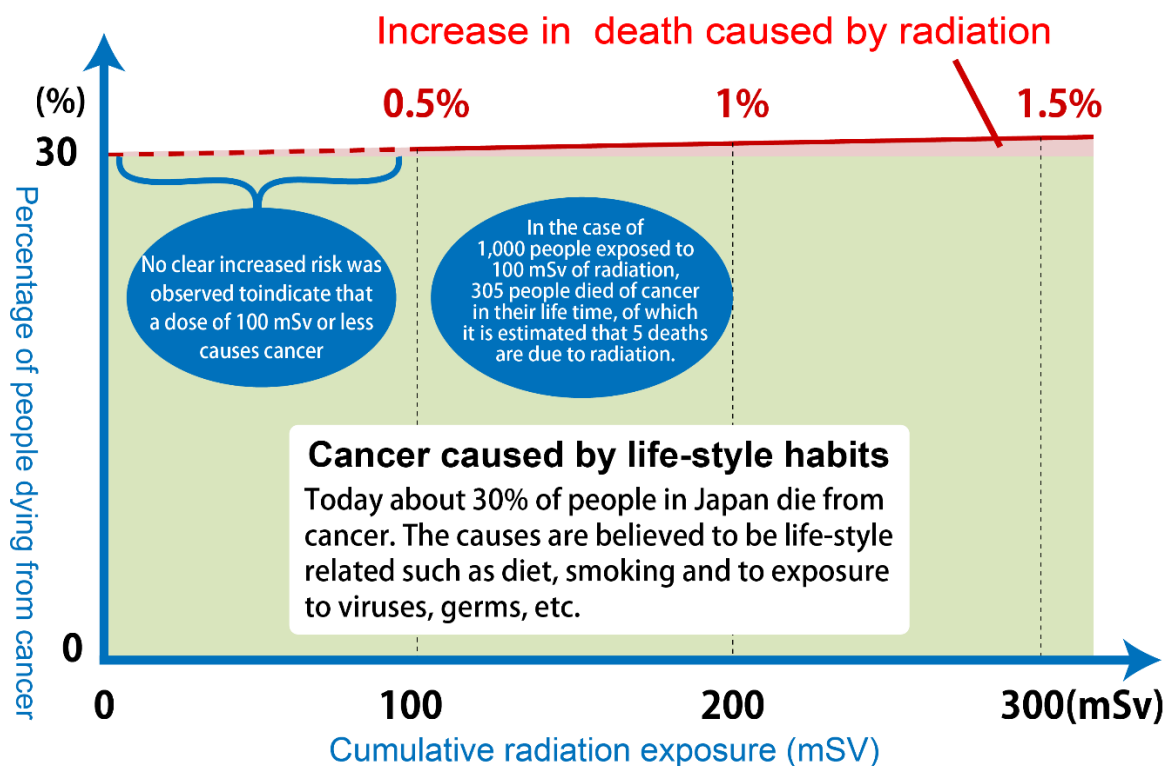


Fig 2. After revision (From 27 Sep. 2011/ Q and A on radiation exposure)