The trend in Radioiodine therapy for benign thyroid diseases in Denmark 1980 to 2006.

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Introduction

Treatment of thyroid diseases with 131-I

Method

Order no 954 from 23 October 2000

§ 36 The responsible physician at the nuclear medicine department is required every year in March to submit a compilation to SIS (National Institute of Radiation Protection) presenting the number and the average administrated activity for all the types of examinations and treatments performed during the previous calendar year.

The results were presented to endocrinologists in Denmark and they have then given their explanations to the therapy trend

Result

1980-2006

Average administrated activity

2000-2006

Treatment of benign thyroid diseases with 131-I
Result

Total administered I-131 to benign Thyroid diseases in Denmark and Sweden

Conclusions

There are no imminent risks of an enhanced dose load to the:

- **Hospital staff** due to the improvements in administration of iodine, education of personnel and well-established quality steering systems at the hospitals.
- **Sewage workers** because the iodine leftovers and the patients’ urine contribute only with a small dose to the sewage workers, which is well below the public dose limits (ICRP, Radiological Protection in Medicine 2007).
- **The public** due to individual written guidance that are discussed with the patients and other people it may concern.

Conclusions

The therapy trend is decreasing and there are no indications that it will stop decreasing in the next few years. Perhaps it will decrease to the same level as in Sweden when the Danish iodine project starts to give result.