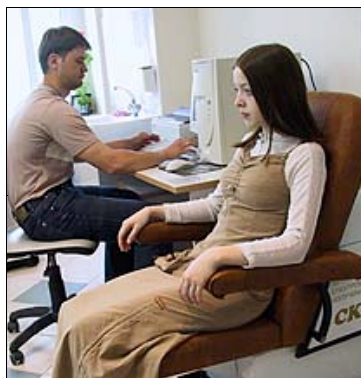


Organisation: Institute of Radiation Safety “BELRAD”

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The institute of radiating safety “BELRAD” (Institute “BELRAD”) was created in 1990 and acts as an independent non-governmental organization. It was founded by a doctor of Technical sciences, Professor Vasily B. Nesterenko in purpose to minimize the health consequences of Chernobyl catastrophe.

The main activity of the Institute “BELRAD” is radiation monitoring of the inhabitants of the Chernobyl zone and their foodstuffs, the development of measures on maintenance of radiation safety and protection of the population on territories contaminated by radionuclides by realization of necessary scientific research, development and organization of implementation of their results in practice.

Main directions of scientific activity of Institute are:

- Radiation monitoring on WBC (whole body counter) of accumulation Cs-137 in organism of children and prevention and protection against radionuclides by pectin preparations;
- Creation of networks of local centers of the radiation control of food stuffs at the population and informing the population about the radiation danger and consequences;
- Development and manufacturing of dosimeter and radiometric devices to control the food stuffs for different Belarusian radiological services;
- Organization and production of pectin food additive “Vitapect”;
- Organization of special center for radio ecological education of the teachers and parents in Chernobyl regions on radiation protection of children.

Since 1990, the institute “Belrad” carries out the radiation monitoring of the Cs-137 content in foodstuffs at local centers of the radiation control (LCRC), which are created at local councils (schools, ambulance stations) with financial support of the State Committee on overcoming of Chernobyl consequences. These LCRC were created in the largest villages, affected by Chernobyl accident in Gomel, Brest, Mogilyov and Minsk region. Now in Belarus works 83 LCRC, including 23, which are financed by the humanitarian aid from Germany. The computer databank of the Institute “Belrad” contains more than 320 thousand results of the radiation

control of foodstuffs. The establishment of excess of the contents of Cs-137 in food stuffs above republican allowable levels (RDU) is the basis for the prime control of children on WBC for definition of the contents of radionuclides in their organism.

The Institute created and accredited on independence and technical competence the Whole Body Counter laboratory (WBC). All 7 complexes "SCRINNER-3M" and the microbuses of laboratory are bought with help of financial support from Chernobyl charitable organizations of Germany, Ireland, USA, Norway. The institute organizes expeditions for measuring on WBC of children at schools and kindergartens in Chernobyl zone of Belarus.

In 1996-2010, the Institute "Belrad" measured on WBC more than 390 thousand children in Gomel, Brest, Mogilyov, Minsk, Grodno and Vitebsk region and in Minsk. The results of measurement of children on WBC are directed to the Ministry of Public Health, local government establishments for realization of protective measures.

The lists of children with the big level of accumulated radionuclides in their organism are represented to the charitable organizations in Belarus, Ireland, Germany, France, USA, Austria for inclusion those children in groups for health improvement.

Since April 2000, the Institute "Belrad" after reception of the sanction of the Ministry of Public Health began to produce food additive "Vitapect" on the basis of apple pectin with addition of seven vitamins and four microelements. Its costs are 2-3 times cheaper than similar preparations, produced in France and Ukraine. "Vitapect" effectively binds and removes radionuclides and ions of heavy metals from the organism.

In June 2001 together with the French doctors was conducted the research of efficiency of "Vitapect" on a double "blind" method under the European standards. It has shown, that during 21 day reception of this preparation, the accumulation of Cs-137 in organism of 32 children decreased on 66 % (average value), whereas during reception of placebo in parallel group, the reduction has made 14%.

In 2006 year Institute "BELRAD" acceded to the Declaration of program principles "Collaboration for the Rehabilitation" (CORE). This program provides effective collaboration for the rehabilitation of the live conditions on the radioactive contaminated areas and effective decisions for the help to adults and children who suffer from the radioactive exposure.

"BELRAD" actively cooperates with the republican, foreign and international organizations and institutions. Since 2006, the Institute is one of the main partners of the international Programme "Collaboration for the Rehabilitation" (CORE) on priority area "Radiological quality". Together with the Research Centre for Nuclear Protection (CEPN, France), Association of contamination control in western France (ACRO), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Chernobyl Committee, the Ministry of Health, Institute of Radiation Safety "BELRAD" involved in the implementation of the thematic Project Programs CORE «Implementation of the radiation monitoring system with the participation of all stakeholders in the Bragin district."

Topics “Nuclear energy” and “Energy supply” via different Belarusians organizations.

Nowadays some non-governmental organizations touch the problem of nuclear energy, especially after the government’s intention to build the first NPP in Belarus. For example, Belarus' EcoHome", “Public environmental review of the Belarusian nuclear power plant, a steering committee of the movement "Scientists for a nuclear-free Belarus", Center of Legal Transformation, Center for Legal Technologies Development and coordinator of a regional campaign Ostrovetskaya nuclear power plant is a crime". All these organizations according to the The Aarhus Convention (ratified by Republic of Belarus in 1999) start the procedure of public hearings assessment of environmental impact of Ostrovetskaya NPP.

Also the Belarusian Party "The Greens" take part in activity against building the NPP.

Many non-governmental organizations work on the adjacent theme of energy supply. For example, IPA "Ecoproject Partnership, International Humanitarian Educational Foundation “Living Partnership”, Foundation “Center of Environmental Solutions”, NGO “EcoHome”, Environmental association “Green Alliance”. Also the questions of energy supply (energy saving education) covered by governmental organizations (schools, gymnasiums, universities, etc.) within different international projects, for example, SPARE (School Project for Application of Recourses and Energy, realized since 2009 together with Norges Naturvernforbund).