#### 363.179 RAD

#### CONTENT

1. Radon and Its Decay Products in Indoor Air: An Overview	1
1. Introduction	1
2. Fundamentals	5
2.1 Characteristics of Radon and Its Decay Products	5
2.2 Factors Affecting Indoor Concentrations	8
3. Indoor Concentrations	10
3.1 Concentrations in North American Housing	11
3.2 Residential Concentrations in Europe	15
3.3 Other Buildings	16
3.4 Time Dependence of Indoor Concentrations	18
4. Sources and Transport	18
4.1 Soil and building Materials	20
4.2 Water	21
4.3 Summary of Source Contributions	22
5. Behavior of the Decay Products	23
5.1 General Considerations	24
5.2 Recent Results	26
6. Health Effects	27
6.1 Types and Results of Health Studies	27
6.2 Risk from Indoor Exposures	30
7. Identifying and Controlling Indoor Concentrations	31
7.1 Measurement Techniques	32
7.2 Control Techniques	33
7.3 Strategies	34
7.4 Future Developments	35
8. Appendix	38
8.1 Radioactive Quantities and Units of Measure	38
8.2 Ventilation Rates: Distribution and Dependence	39
8.3 Outdoor Concentrations of Radon and Its Decay Products	41
8.4 Radon-220 and Its Decay Products	43
References	47

#### PART ONE: SOURECS AND TRANSPORT PROCESSES

2. Soil as a Source of Indoor Radon: Generation, Migration, and Entry	57
1. Introduction	57
2. Physical Characteristics of Soil	59
2.1 Grain-Size Distribution, Porosity, and Moisture Content,	60
2.2 Permeability	61
2.3 Diffusivity	65
3. Radon Production in Soil	69
3.1 Radium Content	69
3.2 Emanation Coefficient	73
4. Building Characteristics	79
4.1 Ventilation	79
4.2 Substructure	81
5. Radon Migration in Soil	82
5.1 Diffusive Transport—Fick's Law	83
5.2 Convective Transport Equation	87
5.3 General Transport Equation	90
6. Radon Entry into Buildings	92
6.1 Pressure-Generating Mechanisms	92
6.2 Relationship Between Indoor Radon Concentration and Ventilation I	Rate 98
6.3 Modeling Radon Entry	102
7. Geographical Characterization	103
8. conclusions	105
References	106
3. Building Materials as a Source of Indoor Radon	113
1. Introduction	113
2. Radon Transport Through Building Materials	114
3. Experimental Methods for Assessment of Exhalation Rate	115
3.1 Measurements on Enclosed Samples	116
3.2 Measurements on Slabs or Walls	118
4. Review of Experimental Data	118
4.1 Radium Concentrations in Building Materials	119
4.2 Emanation Coefficient and Diffusion Length	119
4.3 Exhalation Rates	119
4.4 Influencing Factors	120
5. Interpretation of Experimental Data	121
6. The Impact of Building Materials on Indoor Radon Concentrations	123
7. Preventive Measures	125

8. Discussion and Conclusions	125
References	127
4. Radon Entry Via Potable Water	131
1. Introduction	131
2. Prediction the Indoor Radon Concentration Resulting from Water Use	132
2.1 Long-Term-Average Single-Cell Model	132
2.2 Water-Use Rates	133
2.3 Transfer Efficiency	136
2.4 House Volume	137
2.5 Air-Exchange Rate	139
2.6 The Distribution of $f$	140
3. Radon Concentrations in Potable Water Supplies	143
4. Controlling Radon Concentrations in Potable Water	148
5. Limitations of the Current Analysis	149
5.1 Use of the Lognormal Distribution	149
5.2 Adequacy and Representativeness of the Data	149
5.3 Correlation Among Factors	150
5.4 Limitations of the Model	151
6. Summary and Conclusions	151
7. Appendix: Derivation of Equation 1	152
References	153

PART TWO: CHARACTERISTICS AND BEHAVIOR OF RADON DECAY PRODUCTS	.161
5. Modeling Indoor Concentrations of Radon's Decay Products	161
1. Introduction	161
2. Sources, Sinks, and Conversion Processes	161
2.1 The Source Term and the Assumption of Complete Mixing	163
2.2 The Radioactive Transmutation Terms	164
2.3 Removal by Ventilation	165
2.4 Attachment of Radon Progeny to Aerosol Particles	166
2.5 Removal by Deposition on Walls and Other Surfaces	172
3. The Steady-State Jacobi Model	178
3.1 The Balance Equations in Terms of Concentrations	179
3.2 The Balance Equations in Terms of Activities	181
3.3 Recapitulation of Parameters	181
4. Predicted Indoor Concentrations	182
4.1 Definitions—Potential Alpha-Energy Concentration, Unattached	

Fraction, Equilibrium Ratio	182
4.2 Model Predictions for "Baseline" Values of the Parameters	183
4.3 Sensitivity to Changes in Parameters	185
5. Comparison of Model to Data from Controlled Experiments	185
5.1 George et al. Chamber Experiments	186
5.2 Rudnick et al. Chamber Experiments	187
5.3 EML-LBL Experiments at the LBL Indoor Air Quality	
Research House	188
5.4 Comparison Of Model to Measurements in Houses	189
5.5 Summary	190
6. Advanced Topics	191
6.1 Incomplete Mixing	191
6.2 Activity-Weighted Aerosol Size Distributions	193
6.3 Response to Parameters That Vary with Time	195
6.4 Developments in Atom, Ion, and Particle Deposition	197
7. Summary	199
References	199

## 6. The Nature and Determination of the Unattached Fraction of Radon and

Thoron Progeny	203
1. The Importance of the Unattached Fraction of Radon Progeny	203
2. The Nature of the Unattached Fraction	206
2.1 Interactions During the Life History of the Unattached Radon F	Progeny 206
2.2 Physical Parameters Characterizing Unattached Radon Progeny	211
3. Determination of the Unattached Fraction of Radon and Thoron Progeny	226
3.1 Introduction	226
3.2 Theoretical Procedures for Determination of the Unattached Fra	action 227
3.3 Methods for Measuring Unattached Radon and Thoron	
Progeny Activity	234
4. Uncertainties in the Determination of Unattached Fractions of Radon	
and Thoron Progeny	243
4.1 Uncertainties in the Theoretical Procedure	243
4.2 Uncertainties in the Measurement of Unattached Activity	247
5. Summary	250
References	251

## PART THREE: THE BASIS FOR HEALTH CONCERNS

7. Lung Dosimetry
-------------------

259

	1. Introduction	259
	2. Lung Cancer	260
	2.1 Cells at Risk	261
	3. Structure of the Respiratory Tract	263
	3.1 Function Regions	263
	3.2 Airway Dimensions	265
	3.3 Epithelial Thickness	266
	3.4 Dose from Decay of Radon Progeny	268
	4. Review of Dose Estimates	272
	4.1 Radon Progeny Equilibrium	276
	5. Ling Deposition	277
	5.1 Aerosol Deposition: Comparison of Predictions with Measurements	277
	5.2 Deposition of Radon Progeny	281
	6. Lung Clearance	282
	6.1 Experimental Data	282
	6.2 Models	283
	7. Dose to Lung Tissues per Unit Exposure to Radon Progeny	285
	7.1 Unattached and Aerosol Fractions	285
	7.2 Influence of Breathing Rate	289
	7.3 Age Dependence	290
	8. Doses in Lungs and Dose Equivalents for Radon Progeny in Homes and Mines	292
	8.1 Reference Factors for Exposure in Homes or in Mines	292
	8.2 Dose Related to Radon Gas Concentration	294
	8.3 Doses to Other Organs of the Body	295
	8.4 Effective Dose Equivalent	295
	9. Risk Estimates	297
	9.1 Effective Dose Equivalent	297
	9.2 Extrapolation from Lung Cancer Rates in Miners	297
	9.3 Interaction with Smoking	299
	10. Thoron Progeny	299
	10.1 Dose Conversion Factors	300
	10.2 Risk Estimates	303
	11. Summary	303
	References	304
8. Ep	idemiological Evidence of Radon-Induced Health Risks	311
	1. Input Data Required for Epidemiological Studies Related to Radon Exposure	311

311

1.1 Introduction

1.2 Epidemiology of Radon-Induced Lung Cancer	313
2. Human Exposures to Radon and Its Progeny	318
2.1 Introduction	318
2.2 Mining Populations	319
2.3 Nonmining Populations	331
3. Limitations of Epidemiological Studies	336
3.1 Introduction	336
3.2 Uncertainties of Past Radon Progeny Exposure Assessment	336
3.3 Uncertainties of Lung Cancer Incidence Data	338
3.4 Smoking	340
3.5 Synergism	341
4. Assessment of Risk from Indoor Radon Exposure	344
4.1 Introduction	344
4.2 Lung Cancer Risk Assessment for Miners	345
4.3 Lung Cancer Risk Assessment for the General Public	249
References	358
9. Evidence of Lung Cancer from Animal Studies	373
1. Introduction	373
2. Radon Inhalation Studies at the University of Rochester (UR)	375
2.1 Introduction	375
2.2 Experiments with Mice	376
2.3 Experiments with Rats	376
2.4 Experiments with Dogs	376
2.5 Discussion and Conclusions	377
3. Radon Inhalation Studies at Compagnie Generale des Materieres	
Nucleaires (COGEMA)	378
3.1 Introduction	378
3.2 Results	378
3.3 Discussion and Conclusions	381
4. Radon Inhalation Studies at Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL)	382
4.1 Introduction	382
4.2 Experimental Methods	382
4.3 Lifespan Shortening and Weight Loss	383
4.4 Pathological and Clinical Responses	384
4.5 Respiratory Tract Lesions	388
5. Summary and Discussion of Radon Inhalation Studies in Animals	391
5.1 Summary	391

5.2 Discussion	392
6. Exposure-Effect Relationships for Major Biological Effects	394
6.1 Introduction	394
6.2 Lifespan Shortening	394
6.3 Pulmonary Emphysema	395
6.4 Pulmonary Fibrosis	395
6.5 Lung Cancer	395
7. Comarison of Human and Animal Radon Exposure Data	
References	399

# PART FOUR: CONTROLLING INDOOR EXPOSURES

10. Preventing Radon Entry	407
1. Historical Review of Mitigation Measures	407
1.1 Introduction	407
1.2 Identification of Soil Gas as the Cause	408
1.3 Demonstration Program	409
1.4 Summary	410
2. Basic Mitigation Methods	411
2.1 Source Removal	412
2.2 Sealing	413
2.3 Ventilation	420
2.4 Soil Ventilation	423
3. Discussion	427
3.1 Financing Mitigation Work	427
3.2 New Housing	428
3.3 Obstacles	429
3.4 Summary	430
References	430
11. Removal of Radon and Radon Progeny from Indoor Air	435
1. Introduction	435
2. Steady-State Model	437
3. Dosimetric Models	439
4. Ventilation, Plateout, Attachment	440
5. Direct Removal of Radon Decay Products	445
5.1 Filtration	445

5.2 Reduction of Radon Progeny by Mechanical Mixing	448
5.3 Electric Field Methods	449
6. Summary and Conclusion	453
References	454
12. Elements of a Strategy for Contol of Indoor Radon	459
1. Introduction	459
2. Standards for Indoor Radon?	461
2.1 Estimated Health Risk as a Basis for Action on Indoor Air	461
2.2 Applicability of Existing General Standards	464
2.3 Present Standards for Radon in Homes	466
2.4 Objectives and Implications of Radon Standards	468
3. Interrelationship of Guidelines, Identification, and Control	471
4. Identifying Areas, Housing Classes, or Individual Homes	
with High Levesl	473
4.1 Methodologies for Identifying High Concentration Areas	
or Classes	475
4.2 Techniques and Strategies for Identifying High-Radon Homes	477
4.3 Framework for Interpreting and Utilizing Monigoring Results	478
5. A Framework for Choosing Remedial Measures in Individual Homes	480
5.1 Major Features of a Framework for Choosing Remedial Measures	480
5.2 Diagnosis and Selection	481
6. Related Issues	483
6.1 Local and Regional Variability	483
6.2 Future Buildings	484
6.3 Responsibilities	484
6.4 Communication	485
7. Conclusions	485
References	486
Appendix: Measurement Techniques	491
1. Introduction	492
2. Techniques for Measuring Radon	492
2.1 Analytical Techniques and Grab-Sampling Methods	492
2.2 Continuous Monitors	493
2.3 Integrating Monitors	494
3. Techniques for Measuring Radon Decay Products	495
3.1 Grab-Sampling Methods	495

3.2 Continuous Monitors	497
3.3 Integrating Monitors	498
4. Calibration	498
References	499

## Index

505