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HEALTH PHYSICS

The Profession of
Radiation Protection

What Is Health Physics?

Health physics, also referred to as the science of radiation protection, is the profession devoted to protecting people and their environment from potential radiation hazards, while making it possible to enjoy the beneficial uses of radiation.



What Do Health Physicists Do?

Health physicists are professionals applying scientific understanding of the physical interaction of radiation with the body and environment to maintain protection from the potential hazards of ionizing and nonionizing radiation.

The work of a health physicist is multidisciplinary. Although health physicists typically concentrate in one of the many career fields, a professional health physicist usually performs duties in several areas and across disciplines.

Where Do Health Physicists Work?

Health physicists may work in a variety of fields, including:

- + Research
- + Industry
- + Education
- + Medicine
- + Nuclear Power
- + Military
- + Environmental Protection
- + Enforcement of Government Regulations
- + Decontamination and Decommissioning

