

Importance of Research on Radioprotection and novel approaches

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Currently ionizing radiation is being used in a large number of therapeutic, industrial and other applications apart from for generation of nuclear power and developing new varieties of high-yielding crops and enhancing storage-period of food materials. Cancer is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in several populations of the world and radiotherapy is a dominant and effective mode of cancer treatment. In this aspect there is a need to protect normal cells from radiation during radiotherapy. Hence there is a need to understand the mechanisms of radiation damage to humans and possible prevention by drugs such as radioprotectors. This review deals with some novel approaches to radioprotection and their underlying mechanisms.