Abstract:

The conversion of dosimetric data from one phantom material to another via the mechanism of build-up factor ratios is evaluated. A self-consistent set ¹ of EGS Monte Carlo dosimetric data for model 6711 and 6702 ¹²⁵I seeds and for a ¹⁰³Pd source provides standards for radial dose functions, g(r), and dose-rate constants relative to water, $\Lambda_{phantom}/\Lambda_{water}$, in water substitute materials, PMMA (polymethylmethacrylate), WT1 (Solid WaterTM), and RW-1. For each source, build-up factors are used to convert the data in water to a given phantom material. The resulting g(r) and relative dose-rate constant data are compared to the Monte Carlo results. As defined, the build-up factor assumes no significant spectral change due to capsular or phantom filtration with distance from the radiation source. In addition to the latter, a build-up factor based on average energy loss at mean free path intervals is evaluated to account for phantom filtration. A 6702 source model using the MCNP, Monte Carlo N-Particle, code provides spectrum as a function of transverse distance from the source in water and in phantom material. Material differences in spectral changes are thereby evaluated. Finally, build-up factors including spectral correction are evaluated that account both for capsular and phantom filtration.

(1) Luxton, G., Medical Physics **21**(5):631-641 (1994).