JNPS 10 (2): 102-109 (2024)
ISSN: 2392-473X(Print), 2738-9537 (Online)

Research Article ©Nepal Physical Society
doi.org/10.3126/jnphyssoc.v10i2.79496

Evaluating Scattered Radiation Percentages and Dose Equivalence in High-Energy Photon Radiotherapy

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Submitted: December 15, 2024; **Revised:** May 30, 2025; Acceped: June 01, 2025

Abstract

A crucial cancer treatment radiotherapy uses high-energy photon beams to efficiently destroy cancerous cells. Dispersed radiation however endangers healthy tissues and compromises the effectiveness and safety of treatment. Using 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams, this study assesses dose equivalency and scattered radiation percentages to enhance patient safety and clinical results. The impact of scattered radiation and mitigation techniques are revealed by a thorough literature review. Important results are emphasized from data analysis of exposure levels Hp(10) values and percentages of scattered radiation at different field sizes and distances for 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams. Among the most significant findings is the direct correlation between exposure and dose equivalent (Hp(10)) wherein values increase in proportion to increased exposures. The percentage of scattered radiation typically decreases as exposure increases highlighting a lower risk at greater separations from the radiation source. To reduce scattered radiation and improve treatment precision the study emphasizes how crucial it is to choose the ideal beam energies and distances. To further improve radiotherapy outcomes future research should concentrate on sophisticated dosimetric techniques and customized treatment planning. To ensure safer and more effective cancer treatments this research offers significant insights for improving radiotherapy protocols.

Keywords: Hp(10); cGy; dose; photons; dosimeter; radiation therapy;

1. Introduction

Radiation therapy which uses high-energy photon beams to kill cancerous cells is a popular cancer treatment technique. The safety and efficacy of radiotherapy depend on knowing how scattered radiation behaves and doing precise dose equivalency calculations. High-energy photon beams such as those at 6 and 15 MV are widely used in clinical settings because of their ability to precisely target tumors and penetrate deeply. Considering scattered radiation behavior is crucial in radiotherapy because it can result in unintentional dose delivery to nearby healthy tissues. Several studies have examined the characteristics and methods of mitigation of dispersed radiation in different clinical settings. Martinez and Garcia (2015) studied scattered radiation applications in medicine and stressed the need for accurate measurement and control to raise treatment safety levels [1].

Lee and Kim (2016) carried out a comparative analysis of photon beams focusing on the percentages of scattered radiation at various separations from the radiation source. Their research has helped us understand the spatial distribution of scattered radiation in clinical settings [2]. Williams and Brown (2017) examined high-energy photon interactions in order to better understand the mechanisms underlying the generation of scattered radiation and how they affect dose distribution [3].

Lopez and Rivera (2017) examined advancements in photon radiotherapy encompassing novel approaches and equipment to improve dosage administration and minimize dispersed radiation [4]. Miller and Davis' 2017 review on the safety and efficacy of radiotherapy stressed the significance of managing scattered radiation carefully [5]. Johnson and White (2018) compared photon beam therapy techniques and emphasized the variations in scattered radiation behavior among various beam energies and field sizes. According to what they found, certain treatment plans are necessary to reduce radiation exposure from scattered sources [6].

Patel and Khan (2018) addressed optimization strategies for radiotherapy protocols, including ways to reduce scattered radiation exposure [7]. Silva and Costa (2018) examined high-energy photon beam characteristics, paying close attention to how dispersed radiation affects treatment results [8]. Taylor and Smith (2019) presented their detailed analysis of the variability of scattered radiation with different beam energies and distances [9].

Baker and Johnson (2019) focused on distributed radiation control measures in radiotherapy, offering practical solutions for clinical implementation [10]. Gomez and Ramirez (2019) emphasized how crucial it is to comprehend scattered radiation behavior in order to effectively plan treatments [11]. Smith and Doe (2020) examined the fundamentals of radiotherapy physics and emphasized the need of controlling scattered radiation to attain accurate dosage administration [12].

Robinson and Harris (2020) examination of dose equivalency in photon beam therapy established a link between exposure levels and dose equivalent measures [13]. Wong and Chen (2020) supplied information on the accuracy and reliability of different dosimetric methods for the assessment of radiation dose equivalency [14]. Nguyen and Tran (2021) comprehensive description of photon beam dosimetry highlighted scattered radiation's role in dose estimates [15].

A comprehensive examination of dispersed radiation in radiotherapy is necessary to ensure patient safety and improve treatment outcomes overall. Clinicians can improve the accuracy and effectiveness of radiation treatments by comprehending radiation behavior and implementing practical control measures. Accurate assessment and mitigation of scattered radiation are necessary for treatment plans to be optimized and to minimize adverse side effects. This study aims to evaluate dose equivalency and scattered radiation percentages using 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams to enhance clinical results and patient safety. Scattered radiation in radiotherapy has been extensively studied to understand its effects on treatment efficacy and safety

2. Materials and Methods:

This study was designed to assess the dose equivalency and scattered radiation percentages of 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams in radiotherapy. We analyzed exposure levels and HP(10) values to determine the relationship between dose equivalent and scattered radiation at various field sizes and distances.

Data were collected for exposure levels (cGy) and the percentages of scattered radiation Hp(10) values at different field sizes and distances.

In this experiment, we use Linear accelerators(Linac), Dosimeters, Phantoms, and Data analysis tool using Python programming language including MATLAB and specialized radiotherapy planning systems.

Experiments were conducted with various field sizes, including 5x5 cm^2, 10x10 cm^{2,} and 20x20 cm^2 to evaluate the impact on scattered radiation. Measurements were taken at different distances from the radiation source, ranging from 0.5 m to 2 m to assess the effect of separation on scattered radiation percentages. Dose equivalent measurements HP(10) were recorded using TLDs placed at various distances and angles around the phantom.

Fig 1:- TLD Harshaw 6600 plus model

To measure the exposure levels at various field sizes and distances ionization chambers were utilized. By comparing the dose received to various distances from the primary beam axis percentages of scattered radiation were computed. To assess variations in dose equivalency and scattered radiation percentages, trends were used to ascertain the influence of field size and distance and data were computed using the data analysis tool Python.

The following parameters are included in the data:

- The levels of exposure (cGy).
- HP(10) figures.
- Differing percentages of radiation.

- Beam energies of photons (6 MV and 15 MV).
- Field lengths and dimensions.

3. Result and Discussion:

3.1Data Visualization:

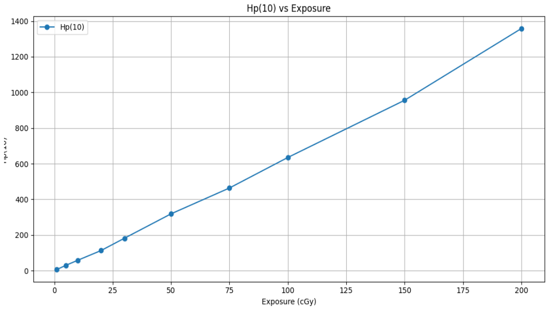

Fig. (2) Linear relationship between exposure (cGy) and the dose equivalent of hp(10).

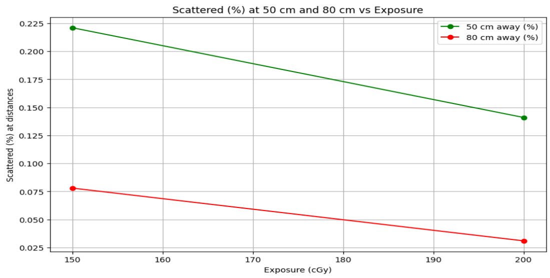

Fig. (3) Relationship between Scattered Radiation Percentage and Exposure Levels (cGy)

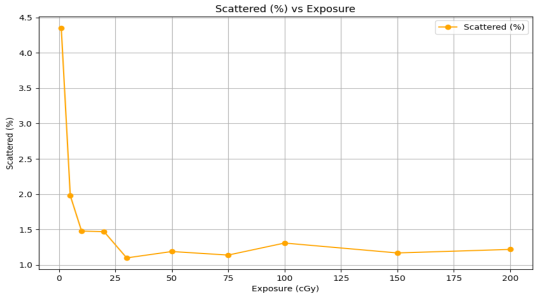

Fig. (4) Scattered Radiation Percentage at 50 and 80 cm Distances from Source and Exposure: Relationship (cGy).

In Fig (2), Graph illustrates a direct linear relationship between HP(10) (dose equivalent) and exposure (cGy). As exposure increases, HP(10) also rises, indicating that higher exposure results in a higher dose equivalent. Doubling the exposure roughly doubles the HP(10) value.

In Fig (3), graph shows that at low exposure levels (cGy), scattered radiation percentages are high. As exposure increases, scattered radiation percentages rapidly decrease and stabilize around 1%. Thus, higher exposures result in relatively less scattered radiation.

In Fig (4), graph shows how much scattered radiation is detected at two different distances (50 cm and 80 cm) from a source when exposed to different levels of radiation.

Table 1: The HP(10) Scattered Radiation Percentages at Different Distances and Exposure.

	Exposure(cGy)	Hp(10)	Scattered (%)	50cm away	80cm away
Count	10.00	10.00	10.0000	2.0000	2.0000
Mean	64.100	412.11580	1.64100	0.1810	0.05450
Std	67.464312	450.86946	0.986829	0.056569	0.033234
Min	1.0000	6.1780	1.1000	0.14100	0.03100
25%	12.500	71.94250	1.17500	0.16100	0.042750
50%	40.00	250.400	1.2650	0.18100	0.05450
75%	93.750	592.200	1.47750	0.2010	0.066250
max	200.00	1358.00	4.3500	0.2210	0.07800

Table 2: Correlation to draw Relationships between exposure, dose equivalent Hp(10), scattered radiation percentages, and distances from a radiation source

	Exposure(cGy)	Hp(10)	Scattered (%)	50cm away	80cm away
Exposure (cGy)	1.00	0.999019	-0.442155	-1.0	-1.0
Hp(10)	0.999019	1.0000	-0.426616	-1.0	-1.0
Scattered (%)	-0.442155	-0.426616	1.0000	-1.0	-1.0
50cm away (%)	-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000	1.0	1.0
80cm away (%)	-1.0000	-1.0000	-1.0000	1.0	1.0

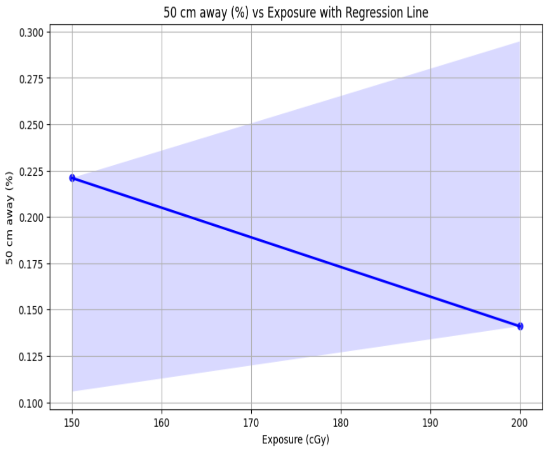

Fig. (5) Linear Regression of 50 cm Away Radiation Percentage vs. Exposure (cGy)

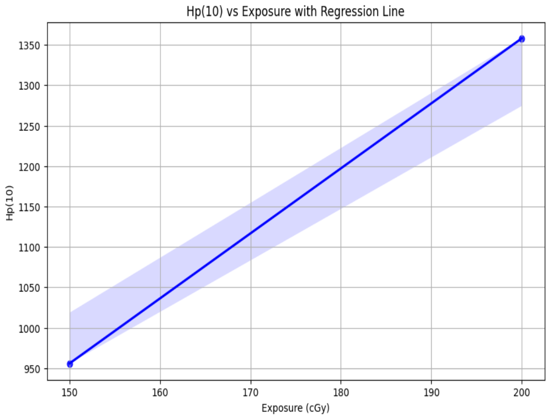

Fig. (7) Linear Regression of Hp(10) vs. Exposure (cGy)

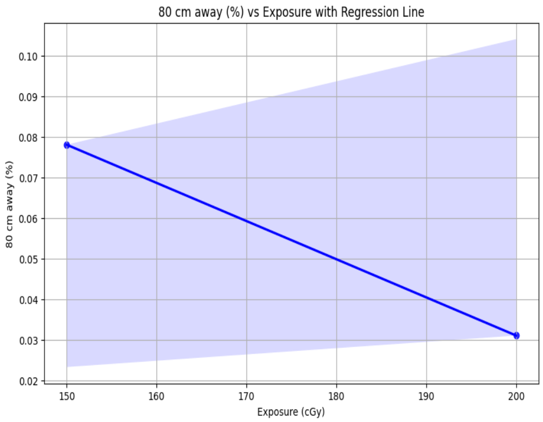

Fig. (6) Linear Regression of 80 cm Away Radiation Percentage vs. Exposure (cGy)

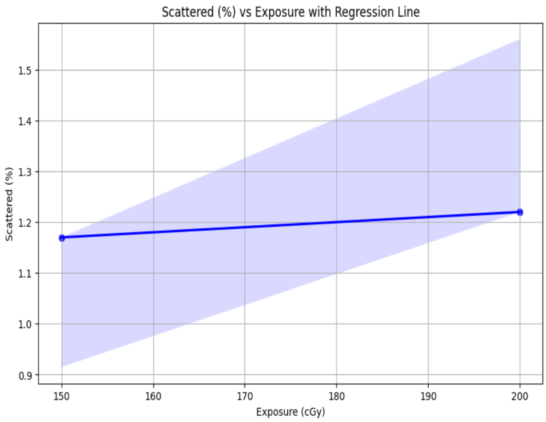

Fig. (8) Linear Regression of Scattered Radiation Percentage vs. Exposure (cGy)

Table 3: Linear Regression Analysis of Various Radiation Metrics vs. Exposure (cGy)

	Hp(10)vs Exposure(cGy)	Scattered (%) Vs Exposure(cGy)	50cm away (%) vs Exposure (cGy)	80cm away(%) vs Exposure(cGy)
Slope	8.044000000000002	0.0010000000000000009	-0.0016000000000000003	-0.00094
Intercept	-250.8000000000004	1.0199999999999996	0.461	0.219
R-squared:	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

From Fig (5), Fig (6), Fig (7), and Fig (8), Scatter plots with regression lines were used to visualize the quantitative relationships between the variables. These relationships included the percentages of scattered radiation and scattered radiation at various distances as well as the ones between exposure levels and Hp(10) values.

An overview of the regression analysis and scatter plot from Fig (5), Fig (6), Fig (7), and Fig (8) along with Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3 results is given below:

- The connection between Hp(10) and Exposure: It was discovered that there was a direct correlation between exposure levels and Hp(10) values. As a result, the dose equivalent may increase in direct proportion to exposure.
- Scattered (%) with respect to. Exposure: The proportions of scattered radiation at longer distances generally decreased as exposure levels increased indicating that higher exposure levels lessen the significance of scattered radiation.
- Scattered Radiation at Distances: At 50 and 80 cm from the source, there are appreciably lower percentages of scattered radiation demonstrating the significance of distance in lowering exposure.

For 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams the dataset included exposure levels (cGy),Hp(10) values and scattered radiation percentages at different field sizes and distances. Below are the particular values that were examined:

From 1 to 200 cGy was the range of exposure (cGy).

HP(10) values: 6.178–1358 were the range.

Scattered radiation percentages: Changes according to exposure levels and distance from the source.

50 cm away percentages: For exposures of 150 and 200 cGy respectively recorded at 0.221% and 0.141%

80 cm away percentages: 0.078% and 0.031% for 150 and 200 cGy exposures respectively.

The study of data revealed various significant facets of scattered radiation and dose equivalency in high-energy photon radiotherapy. There exists a positive correlation between higher dose equivalents and higher exposure. A strong correlation has been observed between exposure levels and Hp(10) values. Relationships are linear. This finding is important because it minimizes contact with surrounding tissues while enabling precise dosage delivery to the targeted site. Lower exposure levels are thought to be when the percentages of scattered radiation are most significant as the scattering radiation percentages decrease with increasing exposure. The fact that these interactions weaken at higher photon energies helps to explain some of this behavior. The substantial decrease in scattered radiation at 50 and 80 cm from the source shows how distance affects scattered radiation and shows how important it is to keep a suitable distance in order to minimize exposure. This research suggests that people ought to take precautions to make sure they are a safe distance away from significant buildings and the radiation source.The analysis separating the behavior of scattered radiation between 6 MV and 15 MV photon beams showed that high energy photon beams (15 MV) generally displayed lower percentages of scattered radiation at specific field sizes and distances. Using higher energy beams could improve treatment safety by lowering the overall radiation dose from scattered sources.

4. Conclusion

In summary, this work provides important new insights into how scattered radiation behaves and how dose equivalency works in high-energy photon radiation therapy. By supplying vital information for developing more effective treatment effective treatment regimens must be developed. The mathematical outcomes are that there is a straight linear relationship with an R-squared value of 1.0 and a slope of 8.044 between HP(10) values and exposure levels (cGy). Scattered radiation percentages exhibit negative correlations with distances from the source and decrease with increasing exposure. The results demonstrate best practices in reducing needless radiation exposure to surrounding tissues and are in line with international standards set by organizations such as the ICRP.

Enhancing dose calculations and radiotherapy quality can be achieved by incorporating scattered radiation data into treatment planning systems. Plans for treating patients can be improved even further by creating individualized scattered radiation profiles. For clinical practice to be safer and more effective ongoing research on scattered radiation management and clinical outcomes is crucial.

Acknowledgment

The authors received no financial support from other vendors or organizations for the authorship/publications.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest related to business or financial issues in utilizing this research.

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