

Al-Mustaqbal University College  
Department of Medical Physics  
The Fourth Stage  
First Course



# *Radiation Protection*

## LECTURE TWELVE *Environmental Radioactivity*



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## LECTURE TWELVE: Environmental Radioactivity

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### Introduction

The origin and existence of life on Earth owe to the presence of radiations that triggered photochemical transformations for sustainable life forms. The classification of radiations into ionizing and non-ionizing radiations, on the basis of interaction with matter, distinguishes their role in the evolution of the environment and its components. With advancement in scientific knowledge, there has been vast development in technological processes that utilize radiations for human benefits. But sometimes radiations pose to be potential risk for environment especially when used as weapon for mass destruction and during human negligence leading to catastrophic disasters.

### General information

- Radiation is a fact of life. We live in a world in which radiation is naturally present everywhere. Many forms of “radiation” are encountered in the natural environment and are produced by modern technology . Most of them have the potential for both beneficial and harmful effects.