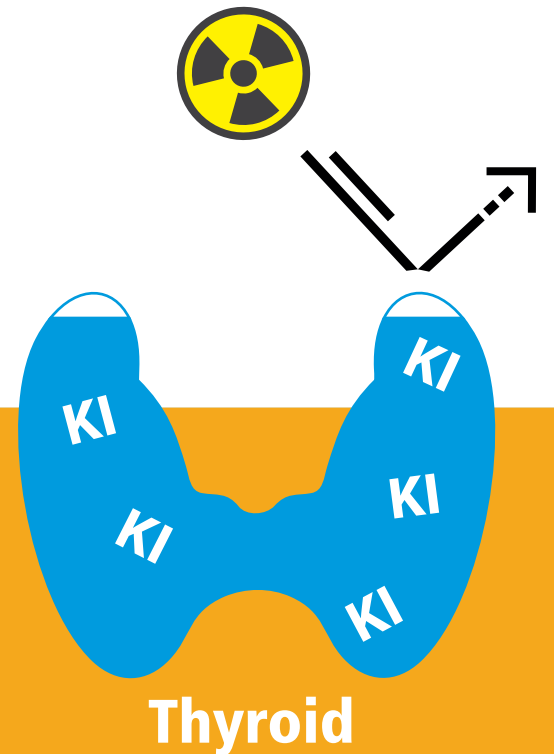


# RADIATION EMERGENCY: IODINE THYROID BLOCKING



Radioactive iodine, if released during a nuclear emergency, can enter the thyroid gland and increase the risk of thyroid cancer – particularly for 0-18 age group.



The thyroid can be protected by taking potassium iodide (KI) in advance, which will stop the absorption of radioactive iodine. This measure is called Iodine Thyroid Blocking (ITB).

ITB is not a stand-alone measure and does not protect from radiation. It should be done together with other measures (sheltering, stopping consumption of contaminated food and water, or evacuation if needed). Children, pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers have priority for ITB.

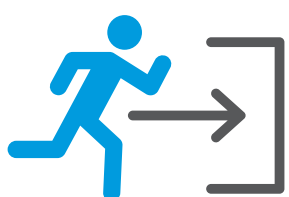
KI dose depends on the age of a person. Please follow carefully the instructions of a medical doctor, public health official or emergency management official.



**Attention!** Do not use iodized table salt nor iodine dietary supplements, as they do not provide the correct amount of iodine to protect your thyroid!



For more information: [www.who.int/health-topics/radiation-emergencies](http://www.who.int/health-topics/radiation-emergencies)



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