

## CONCEPT: MEASURING RADIOACTIVITY

- Radiation can be measured in several different ways depending on which \_\_\_\_\_ is being measured.

Units of Radiation Measurement		
Common Unit	SI Unit	Property Measured
<b>Curie (Ci)</b> ▫ 1 Ci = _____ disintegration(s)/sec	<b>Becquerel (Bq)</b> ▫ 1 Bq = ____ disintegration(s)/sec	Activity: _____ events
<b>Roentgen (R)</b> ▫ 1 R = _____ charges/cm <sup>3</sup>		Exposure: ionizing intensity of ____ or ____ rays
<b>Rad</b> ▫ 1 Rad = _____ J/g ▫ 1 Rad = 1 R	<b>Gray (Gy)</b> ▫ 1 Gy = ____ J/kg ▫ 1 Gy = ____ Rad	Energy absorbed by _____
<b>Rem</b> ▫ Rems = rads x _____	<b>Sievert (Sv)</b> ▫ 1 Sv = ____ Rem	Tissue _____

- **Relative Biological Effectiveness (RBE):** factor accounts for both \_\_\_\_\_ intensity and \_\_\_\_\_ effect.
  - X rays,  $\gamma$  rays,  $\beta$  particles: RBE = 1
  - $\alpha$  particles: RBE = 20

**EXAMPLE:** The initial responders to the Chernobyl nuclear disaster were exposed to 23 Sv of radiation. Convert this value to rem.

**PRACTICE:** A typical chest X-ray exposes a patient to an effective dose of 0.09 mSv. How many Rad is this?

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**PRACTICE:** Two technicians in a nuclear laboratory were accidentally exposed to radiation. If one was exposed to 5 mGy and the other to 9 rad, which technician received more radiation?

**PRACTICE:** A solution of iodine-131, a radioisotope used in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disease, is found just prior to administration to have an activity of  $1.08 \times 10^6$  Bq/mL. If 2.57 mL were delivered intravenously to the patient, what dose of I-131 ( in  $\mu\text{Ci}$ ) did the patient receive?