

# Letter to the Editor

## **Nuclear Denotation and Cataract: A Story of Nuclear Leakage**

Dear Editor:

The nuclear denotation due to the leakage from nuclear electricity plant in Japan after the giant tsunami is a great concern. There are many possible health effects including induction of ophthalmic disorder on the affected population to the nuclear denotation. Indeed the observation on the effect of radioactive leaking from the nuclear plant after the well-known nuclear leakage episode in 1986, Chernobyl case in Russia indicated the emergence of cataract among the exposed subjects. Worgul et al noted that "the data for Stage 1 cataracts, and specifically for posterior subcapsular cataracts, revealed a significant dose response".<sup>1</sup> Radiation cataract was reported to be an important sequel among the survivors from this nuclear accident.<sup>2</sup> Luckily, there is no report on the affected people receiving the radioactive contamination from the crisis who live in the distanced area from the disaster site.

*Viroj Wiwanitkit, MD  
Bangkok, Thailand  
wviroj@yahoo.com*

### **Reference**

1. Worgul BV, Kundiyeve YI, Sergiyenko NM, et al. Cataracts among Chernobyl clean-up workers: implications regarding permissible eye exposures. *Radiat Res* 2007;167(2):233-43.
2. Chumak VV, Worgul BV, Kundiyeve YI, et al. Dosimetry for a study of low-dose radiation cataracts among Chernobyl clean-up workers. *Radiat Res* 2007;167(5):606-14.