

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

32: Medical Applications of Nuclear Physics

Not only has nuclear physics revealed secrets of nature, it has an inevitable impact based on its applications, as they are intertwined with human values. Because of its potential for alleviation of suffering, and its power as an ultimate destructor of life, nuclear physics is often viewed with ambivalence. But it provides perhaps the best example that applications can be good or evil, while knowledge itself is neither.

Topic hierarchy

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- [32.2: Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation](#)
- [32.3: Therapeutic Uses of Ionizing Radiation](#)
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Thumbnail: Whole-body PET scan using ^{18}F -FDG. (Public Domain; Jens Maus (<http://jens-maus.de/>)).

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