

# THE HIDDEN RISKS OF RADIATION FOR PATIENTS AND MEDICAL STAFF

## THE PROBLEM:

Fluoroscopy Guided Procedures (FGPs) have revolutionized how we treat patients. The radiation associated with these medical procedures, however, comes with inherent, well-documented risks.

During an FGP, some amount of ionizing radiation scatters causing unintended exposure to the patient and medical personnel. Over time, frequent radiation exposure may cause health risks. A single interventional procedure can deliver the effective radiation dose equivalent to 250-3,500 chest X-rays<sup>1</sup> and over a life-time, some physicians may be exposed to the equivalent of 150,000 chest X-rays.<sup>2</sup>

## RADIATION RISKS:



**Brain Cancer:** 2X increased risk of brain cancer compared to other medical staff.<sup>3</sup>



**Cancer:** 5X increased risk of cancer in patients surgically treated for scoliosis 25 years post-operatively.<sup>4</sup>



**Cataracts:** 50% significant posterior subcapsular lens changes.<sup>5</sup>



**Stroke:** 34% increase in stroke risk compared to other medical staff.<sup>6</sup>



**Atherosclerosis:** Significant increase in early signs of subclinical atherosclerosis.<sup>7</sup>

## REFERENCES:

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