Japan: Doctors Threatened to Lose Right to Practice for Linking Illnesses to Fukushima

By Arnie Gundersen
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Arnie Gundersen of Fairewinds Energy Education on Radio Ecoshock, released Oct 29, 2014:

Alex Smith, host of RadioEcoshock (*at 10:30 in*): We've heard almost nothing about the impacts [of the Fukushima catastrophe] on people in that region. There are accounts coming out of there of strange tumors, kids dying, pets dying — what have you heard? Can we ever expect an honest accounting from Japanese authorities?

Arnie Gundersen, nuclear engineer (emphasis added): That's a pretty good summary, frankly. We continue to get information from people who live there about cancer rates — and illnesses in general, not just cancer. We think of radiation as a cancer causing thing, but it also causes many other ailments. Much higher incidences of a whole range of illnesses than they had in 2010, the year before the accident… We're also working with doctors in Japan, and some brave doctors are saying that they've been threatened — that their hospital rights have been threatened — if you tell your patient this illness is radiation related you'll lose your right to practice and things like that. So there's enormous pressure on the medical community to tell the patients that what they're experiencing is not at all related to radiation. The key is statistics, and the question is when will the statistics be released for mortality, morbidity, and general illnesses… We're not seeing the data. The medical community now has to file every report that it writes with the IAEA, the International Atomic Energy Agency, before it's issued. So if you're a hospital, and you've got mortality data, you're not allowed to issue that to the public until those reports have been cleared by the IAEA. Well, Article II of the IAEA charter is to promote nuclear power. So even if the hospital was conscientious — there's a lot of political pressure not to be — but even if it was conscientious, there's another step in the process, and they've got to clear an IAEA hurdle before those numbers are released.It's truly frightening, the pressure the medical community is undergoing in Japan. Very few of them are willing to tell the truth.

Arnie Gundersen, nuclear engineer, Oct. 20, 2014 (*at 15:00 in*): There's experts out there like me – independent experts – who are saying that as many as a million cancers may result.

Sneak peek of Oct. 29 broadcast here | *Watch Oct. 20 presentation here*

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