

VANCOUVER CALL FOR ACTION TO STRENGTHEN EXPERTISE IN RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION WORLDWIDE

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BACKGROUND

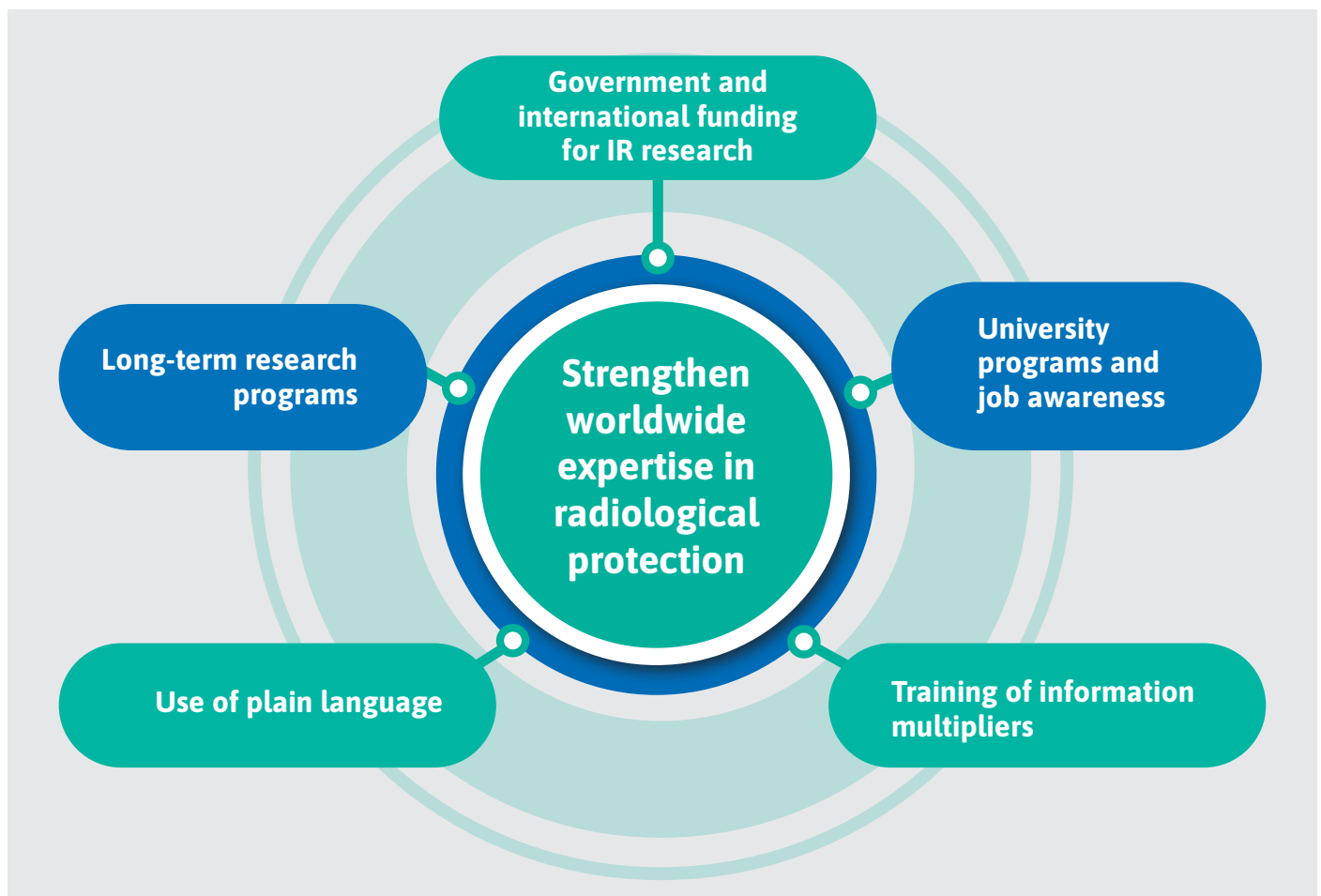
The International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) has long promoted awareness and understanding of environmental and health risks associated with the use of ionizing radiation (IR). Although, for over a century, IR has revolutionized medicine, science, and industry, there is concern over a lack of investment in areas including training and education which may compromise IR awareness, risk management, and protection. This shortfall may also lead to a limitation of future research and development in the IR field for beneficial purposes. The ICRP is now calling for worldwide action that will strengthen awareness and knowledge as well as help secure future research and development opportunities for the use of IR.

OBJECTIVES

In conjunction with multiple local and international agencies, including the World Health Organization and World Nuclear Association, ICRP recognizes the importance of strengthening IR protection expertise. Motivated by the beneficial drive to move IR technology forward, it is of utmost importance that a well informed and educated society is in place to support the initiative. Lack of knowledge could decrease trust in IR use, create anxiety, increase IR exposure risk, and hamper research.

RESULTS

ICRP Call for Action





CONCLUSION

Increased expertise in the use and protection of IR can be achieved through: government funding to demonstrate that the benefits outweigh risks; long-term research for radiation protection of medical workers and patients; university programs to encourage research, education, and leadership in IR; the use of plain language when speaking to provide an objective view of IR risks and benefits; and the education of professionals to help foster an unbiased view on IR use and protection.

Collaboration is encouraged to create a strong infrastructure to invest in education, research, and training. Establishing collaborations around the world is the foundation for strengthening global expertise in IR protection.

APPLICATION FOR PRACTICE

Increase protection from ionizing radiation by:

1



Staying aware of new research and development

2



Fostering an environment of collaboration and sharing of expertise and resources

3



Enhancing protection from existing exposure to radiation

This summary is written and provided by Ansell Healthcare LLC. Ansell Healthcare has attempted to summarize the published study as accurately as possible but makes no representation to the accuracy of the summary. We refer the reader to the actual study for additional information

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