

people than it will save. Some people won't trust advice like "do not take this except in the case of a nuclear accident." They'll take them for their cold. They'll take them to treat cancer. They'll take them to see it it gets them high. And if, God forbid, there is an accident some will take disastrously large doses leaving others without. You could publicly distribute clearly marked salt pills and expect 10 cases of salt overdose within the week.

*and a huge public education effort as well

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• **Re: (Score:2)**

by whoever57 (658626)

Can you actually overdose on Iodine? I don't think so.

Of course, there are also people who don't need these pills -- people who have had Thyroid cancer and don't have and remaining thyroid tissue.

■ Re: (Score:3)

by thesupraman (179040)

You can, around 10-20mg/kg is the LD50 in most animals, however these will not be pure iodine pills. Your take iodine to stop the body taking up radioactive iodine, which gets quite nasty due to its activity and retention.

If your bodies iodine requirements are met already, the radioactive iodine will pass through you with little effect.

For the general population, iodine supplements are highly beneficial, primarily to the brain development and function. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iodine deficiency

This seems

• **Re:** (Score:2) by whoever57 (658626)

Since I know someone who went through thyroid cancer, including ablation using I-131, I was somewhat familiar, with the issues, including the effects of insufficient iodine.

With no thyroid tissue (following radioactive ablation), the body won't retain any iodine.

Re: (Score:2)

by Mashiki (184564)

Most people get enough iodine from table salt, since here in the west we've been adding it to that since the 1920's when they figured out it was a fast, easy and cheap way of fixing the problem. It's only the people who don't use salt at all that are really at risk. My mother had iodine deficiency as a kid(grew up in east germany), nothing like decades of problems with it and it's such a simple problem to fix.

Can you actually overdose (Score:2) by frovingslosh (582462)

Yes, you can overdose. Heck, you can overdose on salt or even water, and they are not normally considered poisons. If you want to play it safe, or if you don't have an iodine pill, the best thing to do when your local nuke reactor goes critical is to grab the little bottle of iodine that has been in the medicine cabinet for ages and smear the iodine solution liberally all over you. Your thyroid wants iodine and it is going to do what it can to get it, The reactor just released some nasty radioactive isotope

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>) by dbIII (701233)

Unless the pills come with a warning less than two sentences long in large print explaining WHY the instructions should be followed*, this will hurt more people than it will save You missed the headline - it's not in the USA:)

They didn't get the same "no child left behind" or "ebonics" cut-price education that would require what you suggest.

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u> by phantomfive (622387)

by <u>dbIII</u> (701233)

Is this the kind of education you're talking about? [youtube.com]

■ Re: (Score:3)

Ah, a link to a video as a reply - how postliterate of you!

More seriously, one of my pet hates is links to videos without context but that's just me so I don't actually think less of you for it. I hate the trend for a long list of reasons, especially for those situations where someone tries to send me to an hour long TED talk when a single line comment about something I'm already aware of will do. I will follow that link some time later.

Back on topic, I don't actually know how much damage the education

Re: (Score:2) by phantomfive (622387)

More seriously, one of my pet hates is links to videos without context but that's just me so I don't actually think less of you for it. I hate the trend for a long list of reasons, especially for those situations where someone tries to send me to an hour long TED talk when a single line comment about something I'm already aware of will do. I'm so sorry, normally I would not have shared a video without a transcript, but this one just wasn't the same in text format.

Prolly too busy emojiing Tinder to not text their BFFs while driving and praying for Bernie Sanders and TARP.

by redmid17 (1217076) KIDS THESE DAYS, AMIRITE?!

DAMN THEM!

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

Idiocy is universal (Score:2)

by Firethorn (177587) They didn't get the same "no child left behind" or "ebonics" cut-price education that would require what you suggest. One thing I've learned over time is that idiocy is pretty universal. Us Americans just like talking about it more.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

all out ;).

• **Re:** (Score:2)

by <u>Kokuyo</u> (549451) We live "near" two nuclear plants and a temporary storage and research facility in Switzerland. All households around here have these pills in storage. So far no major problems occurred with that. I expect in Belgium it'll be similar. In the US I couldn't say, although my prejudices are screaming at me to go

::: qnd nothing of vqlue zqs lost

by Hognoxious (631665)

I meant "... and nothing of value was lost". My keyboard went all Belgian.

• <u>silly belgians...</u> (<u>Score:2</u>) by Black Parrot (19622)

You don't use iodine pills to commit suicide!

• Commutative rule (Score:1) by <u>Tablizer</u> (95088)

• 1 hidden comment

by Anonymous Coward

They did this in Ireland about 10 years or so ago at a cost of a few Million Euro as Dublin is closer to the Sellafield Nuclear Power station in England than Leeds is. However the tablets had an expiry date of 3 years or so and it has never been repeated so that was a useful investment. :-)

• That seems a good idea? (Score:1)

Do I take radiation pills for an iodine accident?

• They will be shut soon anyway - old plant (Score:2)

lot of pipework under stress that doesn't last forever.

by dbIII (701233) Most of the "green" credit in politics here comes from shutting down stuff that has reached it's end of life anyway or getting close to it and getting free publicity for something that would be done anyway. Keeping that old plant going would mean serious rebuilds. Remember it's not just reactors - there's a

The real decision was made years ago because you can't have a civilian nuclear industry without building a reactor every few years so that the ski

by <u>Cupps</u> (4558579) is now going to be a nation of ghouls!

• Belgium... (Score:1)

• But nuclear is magic (Score:2) by cyber-vandal (148830)

It's perfectly safe and anyone who disagrees is a tree-hugging enviro whack-job!

• Been happening in Switzerland for some time (Score:2) by <u>umafuckit</u> (2980809)

where you've put them. • <u>hmm</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

Given that Brussels, where the EU bigheads find themselves fairly often, is in Belgium this would appear to include them as well. Wonder how long it'll be before the EU puts pressure on BE to actually make safe (however that needs to be done) the reactors in question.

• Mutants! (Score:2) by freeze128 (544774)

This must be the thinking of the early nuclear days of around 1945. Iodine pills will cause your thyroid gland to absorb the iodine from the pills, rather than radiated iodine from the environment (water, food, etc). That's great, because you don't want your thyroid going all super-mutant on you. But,

by sociocapitalist (2471722)

radiation can have bad effects on you in more ways than messing up your thyroid! It would seem to me that if there were a nuclear incident, it would be better to evacuate, than to just sit there and take a cou • **Re:** (Score:2) by Firethorn (177587)

This has been the case in Switzerland [www.naz.ch] for some time [ign.org]. You get them when you first move to a "danger area". Then you rapidly forget

But, radiation can have bad effects on you in more ways than messing up your thyroid! Most of the other radioactive elements don't bio-accumulate like iodine does. They also don't concentrate quite so easily. So the pills are to prevent you

from picking the iodine while they get you out and perform the other necessary decontamination.

• Not in the US, though. (Score:2) by Ungrounded Lightning (62228) I'm usually in either Silicon Valley or western Nevada.

After Fukishima, but before the fallout cloud got here, I tried to get some iodine supplement pills, to load up on non-radioactive iodine before the cloud arrived.

Couldn't do it. There were no iodine supplements in the drug stores, or the health-food stores.

Also no tincture of iodine, iodine-based water purification tablets at the camping stores (where it used to be available as a water purifier - and has since been replace by other chemicals, ultrafilte

This website has iodine pills, and lots of other stuff: amazon.com [amazon.com].

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u> by ShanghaiBill (739463) There were no iodine supplements in the drug stores, or the health-food stores.

■ Re: (Score:2) by <u>Ungrounded Lightning</u> (62228)

• <u>Just follow the instructions:</u> (<u>Score:1</u>)

by LordHighExecutioner (4245243)

and by the time it gets here (assuming it isn't sold out) the fallout cloud has come, dumped, and gone, and the radioiodine is concentrated in your thyroid

here [youtube.com], and do not forget that, if you see a mushroom cloud, you have to pick up the phone and call the local police!

• <u>It's not just about Belgium</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

Until now, everyone living within 20km of a nuclear power plant had to have immediate access to iodine pills. The High Council for Health (a scientific has followed this advice. Everyone in Belgium lives within 100km of a Belgian, Dutch or French nuclear power plant. Hence, iodine pills for everyone.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Halo1</u> (136547)

body responsible for giving advice concerning health regulations to the government) has advised to increased this radius to 100km, and the government

by <u>Framboise</u> (521772) Do the Dutch or French living within 20 or 100 km from Belgian plants get the delicious pills too? **■ <u>Re:</u>** (<u>Score:2</u>) by Halo1 (136547) That's up to their national authorities to decide. • 1 hidden comment Related Links Top of the: day, week, month. • 908 comments<u>The Case Against Algebra</u> • 837 commentsBill Nye: Climate Change Denial Is 'Running Out of Steam,' Thanks To Millennials • 821 comments<u>Utah Governor: 'Porn Is a Public Health Crisis'</u> • 819 comments<u>Study Finds 3 Laws Could Reduce Firearm Deaths By 90%</u> • 813 commentsNeil deGrasse Tyson Says It's 'Very Likely' The Universe Is A Simulation SHITTING. In Internet Age, Pirate Radio Arises As Surprising Challenge 18 comments <u>previous</u> <u>Dissension Grows Inside Anonymous Because Of Political Propaganda</u> 62 comments • Don't do it! The game that will have you hooked (Sparta Online Game) • 10 Incredible Bicycle Concepts Of The Future (10amazing.com) • Verrückte Lotto Gewinner Geschichten! (theLotter.com) • Learn How You Can Reduce The Symptoms Of Acid Reflux Naturally (Rapid Reflux Relief eBook) • Günstige Privatkredite Zu Top Konditionen: Alle Privatkredit-Anbieter Hier Finden! (SparViertel) <u>Slashdot</u> <u>Post</u> 44 of 44 loaded Submit Story If it happens once, it's a bug. If it happens twice, it's a feature. If it happens more than twice, it's a design philosophy. **Story Archive** Hall of Fame Advertising <u>Terms</u>

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