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## BNCT of skin tumors using the high-energy D-T neutrons

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## 9 Abstract

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Owing to the continuing need for providing improved and universally accepted 10 facilities to be used in radiation therapies, a number of recently published BNCT-11 related studies have focused on investigating appropriate neutron sources as al-12 ternatives for nuclear reactors. Of special interest are D-T neutron generators, 13 which theoretically have shown the potential to be utilized as neutron sources for 14 BNCT of deep-seated tumors. This work is devoted to investigate the feasibility 15 of using the high-energy neutrons emitted from these generators for treatment 16 of surface tumors, especially skin. Using a set of MCNPX simulations, the D-T 17 neutrons are passed through an optimized arrangement of materials to slow-down 18 toward the desired energy range, and to remove the neutron and gamma contam-19 ination considering the IAEA recommended criteria, especially determined for 20 pre-clinical survey for treatment of surface tumors. By assessment with these 21 parameters, it is shown that the designed beam, corresponding to a configura-22 tion composed of natural uranium as neutron multiplier, D<sub>2</sub>O as moderator, Pb 23 as reflector, Bi as gamma filter, and polyethylene and BeO as collimators pro-24 vides high-intensity of desired neutrons, and low-background doses as well. It 25 was found that an appropriate material for collimator, if accompanied with an 26 optimized geometry, is an important parameter for keeping the undesired com-27 ponents to the recommended level. 28

A typical simulated phantom, subjected to the irradiation of the designed spectrum, is used to study the performance of the resultant beam in shallow tissue. For an arbitrary chosen <sup>10</sup>B concentration, the evaluated depth-dose curves show Download English Version:

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