

## Supercourse Newsletter

April 26, 2010

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Dear Friends

### Nuclear Global Health

We want to talk with you about Nuclear accidents and Nuclear war. We need your help to inform your students, faculty about potential scenarios associated with nuclear power.

### Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, Cold War and Hiroshima

If you are over 35 years of age, you will remember the fear and concern of Chernobyl, if you are over 45, 3 Mile Island, over 55, the Cold War and over 70, the Bombing of Japan. Nuclear power is the most potent “plague” that can affect humans and threatens the health of the world. In the 50-60s, the threat of Nuclear was held over our heads in all countries. We invest much more in Global Health related to AIDs, SARs, TB, Malaria, than we due for Nuclear health which is likely many times more deadly.

We have all become adapted to the presence of a nuclear threat in Global Health, perhaps because nothing major has happened in 24 years since Chernobyl. We rarely teach about Nuclear threat and mitigation in our Medical, Nursing, Engineering and other schools, despite the fact of a marked proliferation and aging of Nuclear power-plants and bombs.

April 26 is the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Chernobyl, and we felt that we needed to share with all involved in Public Health a top quality scientific Supercourse lecture on Nuclear Radiation and Health. Our Pittsburgh group teamed up with experts from the Ukraine and Russia to produce a state of the art lecture which was presented above. We would very much appreciate if you could share this with your faculty and students. We would very much appreciate if you could give us your thoughts.

Borys Ledoshchuk, a noted Ukrainian Radiation Epidemiologist and Scientist was organizer of medical monitoring affected by the Chernobyl since 1988 he studied the epidemiology of leukemia and many other radiation health efforts developed a wonderful lecture with, Eugene Shubnikov, a leader of the Supercourse in Russia, and our group. It has been translated into English, Russian, Japanese, Spanish, and Arabic, and there are several others translating it as well. The Lecture plus translations can be found at:

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec37401/index.htm>

Should an event occur, we will ask your help in teaching about Global health and the Nuclear Threat. Use a few slides of the lecture in your lectures on Global Health. Should the threat of a Nuclear bomb or Melt down occurs, this will be a “teaching moment” when people want to know about Nuclear mitigation. Also, having a top lecture by expert scientists from around the world will help to squelch rumors and tame the epidemiology of fear.

Please consider the possibility to raise awareness about the nuclear threat on April 26, and distribute the lecture to your students and friends.

Please send your thoughts to [super1@pitt.edu](mailto:super1@pitt.edu) concerning the Supercourse and Nuclear Global Health. If you would like to join this effort please contact Eugene in Russia at [Eugene.shubnikov@gmail.com](mailto:Eugene.shubnikov@gmail.com).

Thank you for helping with this difficult topic.

Borys, Ron, Eugene, Faina, Francois

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