

NORWAY

Report on Optical radiation activities June 2025 – May 2026

General research activities in Norway related to optical radiation health

There are ongoing research activities, by universities and university hospitals, Cancer Registry of Norway, Norwegian Institute of Occupational Health (STAMI) and Norwegian Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (DSA) among others. It covers epidemiologic studies related to melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, sun- and sunbed-related behaviour, and UV and optical radiation related to the climate. Quality assured, historical data from the Norwegian UV monitoring network are used in national and international studies and are available for research purposes at [github](#). There are two newly started studies in 2025-2026 regarding sun-related behaviour and prevention in after-school programs and occupational sector in a pilot municipality in Norway.

New policies and legislations regarding optical radiation

New regulations on infringement fees linked to violations of the radiation protection regulations, including those related to sunbeds and use of lasers, came into force 1 January 2026.

A proposal for stricter regulation of sunbeds to reduce the incidence of skin cancer has been out for consultation and further process will be decided by the Ministry of Health and Care Services. The proposal includes amendments to the Radiation Protection Act by introducing a ban on advertising for sunbeds and the closure of sunbed businesses in case of violation of the age verification requirement. The consultation note also contains amendments to the Radiation Protection Regulations by introducing a supervision fee, a requirement for information to customers about risk factors when using sunbeds, before payment is made, and two alternative solutions for better age verification: a requirement for age verification using self-declared eID or a requirement for manned service.

Areas of public concern and national responses

In May 2026, there have been incidents where graduating students have got permanent eye injuries caused by entertainment lasers mounted on the roof of

party buses. The police and the Norwegian Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority investigate the use of these lasers and technical specifications. The incidences have caused much media attention and if stricter regulations are needed.

New public information activities

The research project regarding sun-related behaviour and prevention in after-school programs was promoted in media as well as informed through DSAs web pages.

Both DSA, the Norwegian Cancer Society, Norwegian Meteorological Institute and Norwegian Institute for Air Research publish news regarding the expected UV situation and related sun protection advice prior to the Easter and summer holidays.

There has been some media attention regards a physician, that is also very active in social media, claiming the Norwegian Cancer Society and the health authorities “kill people” by advising everyone to protect themselves in the sun, that sunscreen use can increase risk of skin cancer and that sunbed use and sun exposure can increase overall life expectancy. The physician refers to two research studies. Countering such misinformation has required and will require much time and effort from professional bodies working with skin cancer prevention.