



2023 International Advisory Committee (IAC) Meeting on Non-Ionizing Radiation- 6-8 June 2023 – Geneva, Switzerland Answers to preparatory questions

Optical radiation – Report on activities in Sweden

Research activities related to optical radiation and health

The Swedish Radiation Safety Authority's (SSM) scientific council on UV and health gives advice in areas relating to the connection between UV and biological effects. The work of the council provides the authority a foundation that assures scientifically based recommendations to the public.

The council summarises recent research in a report yearly. The council consists of experts in the fields of dermatology, epidemiology, meteorology and marketing communication, occasionally supplemented with adjuncts members to cover complementary areas of knowledge. A current topic in this year's report is health implications of UVC-emitting devices increasingly used following the Covid19-pandemic; another is UV-doses and health in school- and preschool children in relation to infrastructure and shading.

New relevant policies and legislations

SSM's regulation for artificial tanning devices is currently under revision, and the proposal for revised regulation was notified to the EU recently. Tanning beds are included in the (list of) products that are part of a harmonized market, and are therefore subject to notification¹.

Main purposes of the revision

- The applicable regulation took effect in 2012, and since then the Radiation Protection Act has been revised (2018). One important addition to the act was the ban for minors to use commercially available tanning beds. Besides, the applicable regulation refer to an older version of the harmonised standard EN 60335-2-27 for household appliances.
- Previously the regulation applied to sunbeds with a wider wavelength and power range. The proposal suggests that only type 3 devices should be included in the part concerning sun beds.
- The proposal includes regulations for service and provision of service records to the supervisory authorities (the municipalities).
- A list of what should be monitored by the business practitioners themselves in terms of service, knowledge requirements and risk assessment.

New communication activities

In 2019 the authority received an assignment from the Swedish government to intensify the work with skin cancer prevention. The main purpose is to influence exposure habits

¹ Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations.

Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market.



with information and advice. The assignment was originally set for three years, but has been prolonged.

Objects

- Select target groups
- Develop tailored messages and launch campaigns
- Co-ordinate relevant authorities and organisations in this work

Apart from regular campaigns this work has so far implied information on exposure in medical on-line web services (previously more inclined towards secondary prevention), course material for preschool teachers and childcare staff, and last but not least that stakeholders are more aware of each other's activities, and joint benefits of the coordination.