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DOIN: a novel electronic personal dosimeter for neutrons

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Electronic personal dosimeters (EPD) are powerful tools for achieving ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) objectives in operational radiation protection. These offer real-time reading, time-resolved dose recording, alarm threshold settings and visible/audible alarms to prevent accidental exposures. EPD for photons are well developed and their performances usually comply with relevant Standards. By contrast, a very few commercial models exist for neutrons and their energy dependence is too large for using them without pre-information on the workplace neutron spectrum. Within the INFN-based DOIN (DOSimetro Indossabile per Neutroni) project, a new EPD for neutrons was prototyped, owing to a new patented design. The energy variability of the response is limited to about 2 when the energy varies from thermal neutrons up to the quality of $^{241}\text{Am-Be}$ and monoenergetic reference neutron fields. The calibration coefficient is $\sim 10^4 \text{ mSv}^{-1}$ in terms for $H_p(10,0^\circ)$ for the bare ^{252}Cf source. The response is nearly isotropic compared to actual commercial models. Finally, the parasitic photon sensitivity is lower than 2 mSv^{-1} in the range $48\div 205 \text{ keV}$.

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Shielding and dosimetry

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