# Contents


**Preface** ..... iii

**1. Introduction** ..... 1
- **1.1** Rationale for Proton Therapy ..... 1
- **1.2** History of Proton Therapy ..... 2
- **1.3** Scope of this Report ..... 4
- **1.4** Relation to Existing Reports ..... 5

**2. Production of Proton Beams for Therapeutic Applications** ... 6
- **2.1** Accelerators ..... 6
  - **2.1.1** Cyclotrons ..... 6
    - **2.1.1.1** Synchrocyclotrons ..... 6
    - **2.1.1.2** Isochronous Cyclotrons ..... 7
  - **2.1.2** Synchrotrons ..... 7
  - **2.1.3** Linear Accelerators ..... 8
- **2.2** Typical Operating Parameters ..... 8
- **2.3** Beam Shaping and Delivery ..... 8
  - **2.3.1** Passive Scattering Techniques ..... 8
  - **2.3.2** Wobbling and Beam Scanning ..... 9
  - **2.3.3** Spot Scanning ..... 10

**3. Pertinent Quantities and Units** ..... 11
- **3.1** Physical Quantities ..... 11
- **3.2** Radiometric Quantities ..... 11
- **3.3** Interaction Coefficients ..... 11
- **3.4** Dosimetric Quantities ..... 12
- **3.5** Stochastic Quantities ..... 12

**4. Proton Interactions with Matter** ..... 13
- **4.1** Electromagnetic and Nuclear Interactions ..... 13
- **4.2** Energy Deposition ..... 13
  - **4.2.1** Average Energy Loss ..... 13
  - **4.2.2** Microdosimetric Concepts ..... 14
- **4.3** Factors which Affect Proton Beam Characteristics ..... 14

**5. Determination of Proton Absorbed Dose in Reference Conditions** ..... 15
- **5.1** General Considerations for Proton Dosimetry ..... 15
- **5.2** Fluence Measurements with a Faraday Cup ..... 16
- **5.3** Absorbed Dose Measurements with a Calorimeter ..... 17
- **5.4** Absorbed Dose Measurements with an Ionization Chamber .. 18
  - **5.4.1** Introduction ..... 18
  - **5.4.2** Conceptual Description of Absorbed Dose Determination ..... 18
  - **5.4.3** Interpretation of Ionization Chamber Response ..... 19
    - **5.4.3.1** Considerations of Stopping Power ..... 19
    - **5.4.3.2** Considerations of w and W ..... 21
  - **5.4.4** Determination of Absorbed Dose to Water ..... 26
    - **5.4.4.1** Determinations Based on Fluence ..... 26
    - **5.4.4.2** Determinations Based on Air Kerma Calibrations ..... 27
    - **5.4.4.3** Determinations Based on Absolute Dose to Water Calibrations ..... 27

**6. Beam Monitoring and Relative Dosimetry** ..... 29
- **6.1** Beam Monitoring ..... 29
  - **6.1.1** Detectors for Monitoring Beam Intensity ..... 29
    - **6.1.1.1** Ionization Chambers for Beam Monitoring ... 29

**6.1.1.2** Other Beam Monitoring Detectors ..... 32
**6.1.2** Special Considerations for Monitoring of Dynamic Beam Delivery ..... 32
**6.2** Dose Distributions ..... 33
**6.2.1** Detectors for Dose Distribution Measurements ..... 33
**6.2.1.1** Silicon Diodes ..... 33
**6.2.1.2** Films ..... 34
**6.2.1.3** Other Detectors for Relative Dosimetry ..... 34
**6.2.2** Determination of Dose Distributions ..... 35
**6.2.2.1** Measurement of Beam Range and Depth Dose Characteristics ..... 35
**6.2.2.2** Lateral Dose Uniformity and Beam Penumbra ..... 36

**7. Recommendations for Determination of Absorbed Dose in a Phantom** ..... 37
**7.1** General Recommendations ..... 37
**7.1.1** Reference Dosimeter ..... 37
**7.1.2** Phantom Material and Reference Depth ..... 37
**7.2** Determination of Proton Absorbed Dose to Water using a Calibrated Ionization Chamber ..... 37
**7.2.1** $N_K$-based Calibrated Ionization Chamber ..... 37
**7.2.2** $N_W$-based Calibrated Ionization Chamber ..... 39
**7.3** Determination of Proton Absorbed Dose to Water using a Calorimeter ..... 39
**7.4** Determination of Proton Absorbed Dose to Water using a Faraday Cup ..... 40
**7.5** Numerical Values of Required Quantities ..... 40
**7.6** Summary of Recommendations ..... 41

**Appendix A**
**Quality Assurance Example** ..... 43

**Appendix B**
**Dosimetry Worksheet** ..... 44

**References** ..... 46

**ICRU Reports** ..... 54

**Index** ..... 58