

**stochastic effect**

Consequence for which the probability of occurrence depends on the absorbed *dose*; hereditary effects and cancer induced by radiation are considered to be stochastic effects. The term "stochastic" indicates that the occurrence of effects so named would be random. This means that, even for an individual, there is no threshold of dose below which there is absolutely no probability of an effect occurring, and the chance of experiencing the effect increases with increasing dose.

2001, 73, 1023