

# Ultraviolet Radiation Encyclopedia Article

## Ultraviolet Radiation

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# Ultraviolet Radiation

Radiation of the sun including ultraviolet A (UV-A, 320-400 nanometers) and ultraviolet B (UV-B, 280-320 nanometers). Exposure to UV-A radiation, which is utilized in tanning booths, damages dermal elastic tissue and the lens of the eye, and causes **cancer** in hairless mice. Exposure to UV-B induces breaks and other mutations in DNA and is associated with basal and squamous cell carcinoma as well as melanoma. The **ozone** layer of the earth's **atmosphere** provides protection from ultraviolet radiation, but this protective layer is becoming depleted due to the release of **chlorofluorocarbons** and other causes.

## See Also

Ozone Layer Depletion; Radiation Exposure