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Gamma Radiation

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Gamma Radiation*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C44386.

High-energy, short wavelength, ionizing electromagnetic radiation emitted from the nucleus. Gamma radiation frequently accompanies alpha and beta emissions and always accompanies fission. Gamma rays are very penetrating and are best stopped or shielded by dense materials, such as lead or depleted uranium. Gamma rays are identical to x-rays and are only differentiated by their origin. (from NRC Glossary)