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**Special protection against ionising radiation
during pregnancy and nursing**

Ref.: Decree n° 2003-296 of 31 March 2003 on
the protection of workers against the
dangers of ionising radiation

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The decree referred to on the cover page (0/1) sets out the following requirements with respect to pregnant women and nursing mothers:

- Pregnant women: Measures must be taken to ensure that, from the moment the Works Doctor is notified of the pregnancy up to the time of the birth, exposure of the unborn child is as low as reasonably possible, and in any event lower than 1 mSv.
- Nursing mothers: Nursing mothers must not be assigned to or remain in posts involving a risk of internal exposure.

In order to satisfy these requirements, the ILL will implement the following special protective measures:

- Pregnant women: Pregnant women who have access to radiation protection zones with restricted access must notify the Works Doctor of their condition as soon as they realise they are pregnant.

Their right to access these zones is then modified as follows:

- Access to specially controlled zones (yellow, orange and red zones) is prohibited,
- Access to areas with warning signs indicating a risk of radioactive contamination is prohibited and, as a precautionary measure, access to reactor levels B and D and to the radioactive part of the detritiation facility is also prohibited,
- Access to supervised areas and to green controlled areas is permitted once the post in question has been examined by the Health Physics Service in order to limit personal exposure as far as possible.

Moreover, the following activities are no longer authorised:

- the handling of radioactive sources,
- the handling of samples which have been exposed to the neutron beams.

Finally, the results of the operational dosimetry of pregnant women are monitored on a daily basis.

- Nursing mothers: Nursing mothers who have access to radiation protection zones with restricted access must make themselves known to the Works Doctor.

They are not allowed access to areas with warning signs indicating a risk of radioactive contamination and, as a precautionary measure, access to reactor levels B and D and to the radioactive part of the detritiation facility is also prohibited.

Moreover, they are not allowed to carry out any work involving a risk of radioactive contamination; in particular, they are not allowed to handle unsealed radioactive sources, such as samples in powder form which have been exposed to the neutron beams.