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Nuclear research reactors: Necessity or luxury?

Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide, and its burden is increasing. In Saudi Arabia, there are three cyclotrons, but they only produce radioisotopes for diagnosis, not treatment. This means that patients with cancer must rely on imported radioisotopes, which can be expensive and time-consuming due to the short half-life of these isotopes. The establishment of a nuclear research reactor in Saudi Arabia would help to address this challenge by producing radioisotopes for both diagnosis and treatment. This would improve the availability and affordability of radioisotopes for Saudi cancer patients, and it would also reduce the need to import radioisotopes from other countries. In addition to the benefits for cancer patients, a nuclear research reactor would also have a number of other positive impacts on Saudi Arabia. It would create new jobs and opportunities in the medical and economic sectors, and it would help to position Saudi Arabia as a leader in the field of nuclear medicine. In conclusion, the establishment of a nuclear research reactor in Saudi Arabia is a necessity, not a luxury. It would significantly improve the treatment of cancer patients in Saudi Arabia and have a number of other positive benefits for the country.

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