

Marie Curie

Marie Curie was a physicist, chemist and a pioneer in the study of radiation. She and her husband, Pierre, discovered the elements polonium and radium. They and Henri Becquerel were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in the year June 1903.

Marie Curie was the first woman in France to defend her doctoral thesis. Marie received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in the year 1911. Marie discovered: Polonium, Radium.

The **radium** is used to produce radon gas which, in turn, is used to treat cancer.

Marie Profession: A Physicist, Chemist, and Scientist

Marie Curie Born: November , 1867

Spouse: Pierre

Curie was intrigued by the reports of German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen's discovery of X-rays and by French physicist Henri Becquerel's .

The report of similar "Becquerel rays" emitted by uranium salts. Curie coated one of two metal plates with a thin layer of uranium salts .

Then she measured the strength of the rays produced by the uranium using instruments designed by her husband.

she coined the term "radioactivity.".

Curie stated that measuring radioactivity would allow for the discovery of new elements. And, that radioactivity was a property of the atom.

Marie was awarded a second Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her discovery of the elements polonium and radium in the year 1911.

In honor of the 100-year anniversary of her Nobel award, 2011 was declared the "International Year of Chemistry."