Indicators of a Possible Radiological Incident



If oxygen and humidity levels are adequate, a sufficient mass of certain plutonium isotopes may become pyrophoric (able to glow from its own heat).

Indicators	
Unusual Numbers of Sick or Dying People or Animals	As a first responder, strong consideration should be given to calling local hospitals to see if additional casualties with similar symptoms have been observed. Casualties may occur hours to days or weeks after an incident has occurred. The time required before symptoms are observed is dependent on the radioactive material used and the dose received. Additional symptoms include skin reddening and, in severe cases, vomiting.
Unusual Metal Debris	Unexplained bomb/munitions-like material.
Radiation Symbols	Containers may display a radiation symbol.
Heat Emitting Material	Material that seems to emit heat without any sign of external heating source.
Glowing Material/Particles	If the material is strongly radioactive, it may appear to glow.