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2 more thyroid cancer cases identified in Fukushima

FUKUSHIMA, Japan, Feb. 13, Kyodo

A Fukushima prefectural government panel said Wednesday two young people, who were 18 or younger when the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi complex erupted in March 2011, have been diagnosed with thyroid cancer, bringing the total number of such cases to three.

Reporting the finding at a meeting of the panel on the health impact from the disaster, Shinichi Suzuki, professor at Fukushima Medical University, said it is too early to link the cases to the nuclear accident as the 1986 Chernobyl disaster demonstrates that it takes at least four to five years before thyroid cancer is detected.

The three people have been doing well since undergoing surgery, according to Suzuki.

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