# KERMA v. Dose



- Define KERMA and relationship to dose
- Identify curves (C1,C2) and regions (R1,R2)
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• Under what assumptions would alter the KERMA-Dose relationship to the plot below?



### Describe Air Kerma based calibration protocol

$$D_{\rm air} = (K_{\rm air})_{\rm air}(1-g)k_{\rm m}k_{\rm att}k_{\rm cel}$$
(9.16)

#### where

- *g* is the fraction of the total transferred energy expended in radiative interactions on the slowing down of secondary electrons in air;
- $k_{\rm m}$  is a correction factor for the non-air equivalence of the chamber wall and buildup cap needed for an air kerma in air measurement;
- $k_{\text{att}}$  is a correction factor for photon attenuation and scatter in the chamber wall;
- $k_{cel}$  is a correction factor for the non-air equivalence of the central electrode of the cylindrical ionization chamber.

$$N_{\rm D,air} = \frac{D_{\rm air}}{M_Q} = \frac{1}{m_{\rm air}} \frac{W_{\rm air}}{e} = \frac{1}{\rho_{\rm air}} \frac{W_{\rm air}}{e}$$
(9.20)

where

 $(W_{air}/e)$  is the average energy required to produce an ion pair in air;

 $m_{\rm air}$  is the mass of air in the chamber cavity;

 $\rho_{air}$  is the air density at standard conditions of temperature and pressure;

V<sub>eff</sub> is the effective air volume in the chamber collecting ions.

$$D_{w,Q} = D_{air,Q}(s_{w,air})_Q p_Q = M_Q N_{D,air}(s_{w,air})_Q p_Q$$
(9.21)

where

 $(s_{wair})_O$  is the ratio of restricted collision stopping powers of water to air;

 $p_Q$  is a perturbation correction factor accounting for perturbations caused by the chamber inserted into the medium, as discussed in detail in Section 9.7.

$$K_{\text{air}} = X \left(\frac{W_{\text{air}}}{e}\right) \frac{1}{1-\overline{g}}$$

 $D = K_{\rm col} = K(1 - \overline{g})$ 

$$D_{\rm air} = \frac{Q}{m_{\rm air}} \left( \frac{W_{\rm air}}{e} \right)$$

## Describe differences between Air Kerma based and Absorbed Dose based calibration protocols



FIG. 9.4. Steps involved in ionization chamber based reference dosimetry: (a) air kerma in air based, (b) absorbed dose to water based.