

## NEXT-TIME QUESTION

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Answer:

No, because the radium doesn't interact with the Geiger counter. When the counter is brought near the radium, the interaction involved is between the Geiger counter and the emitted particles, *not* between the counter and the radium. What is altered by this measurement is the particles that emanate from the radium—but not the radium itself.



Rest assured that a radiation counter doesn't change the decay rate of a radioactive source!

