

You can solve this problem by two ways.

(a) Counting the number of half-lives. That is how many times the initial quantity has been reduced by half.

$$1 \text{ yr} \times \frac{365 \text{ d}}{1 \text{ yr}} \times \frac{1 \text{ half-life}}{44.5 \text{ d}} = 8.20 \text{ half-lives}$$

$$0.56 \text{ mg} \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{8.2} = 0.0019 \text{ mg}$$

(b) Determining the value of k from the half-life, and then use the equation $N_t = N_0 e^{-kt}$

$$k = \frac{\ln 2}{44.5 \text{ d}} = 1.56 \times 10^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

$$-kt = -1.56 \times 10^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1} \times 365 \text{ d} = -5.69$$

In a sample of pure isotopic substance, the mass (m) is directly proportional to the number of atoms (N), so $m_t = m_0 e^{-kt}$

$$m_t = m_0 e^{-5.69} = 0.56 \text{ mg} \times 0.0034 = 0.0019 \text{ mg}$$