NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
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701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

MEMO TO : North Dakota Medical Radioactive Material Licensees

FROM : Terry L. O'Clair, P.E.
Director
Division of Air Quality

FILE

RE : NRC Information Notice 2002-23, Supplement 1: "Unauthorized Administration of Byproduct Material for Medical Use"

DATE : April 10, 2006

Enclosed is a copy of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Information Notice 2002-23, Supplement 1: "Unauthorized Administration of Byproduct Material for Medical Use". This information notice is to remind licensees of the importance of appropriate authorization before administration of radioactive material for medical use.

It is expected that you will review this information for applicability to your licensed activities and consider actions, as appropriate, to ensure the safe and legal use of radioactive materials in the State of North Dakota.

This notice is for your information only. Written response is not required. If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the Radiation Control Program at (701)328-5188.

TLO/CJS:csc
Enc:

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

July 16, 2002

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2002-23: UNAUTHORIZED ADMINISTRATION OF BYPRODUCT MATERIAL FOR MEDICAL USE

Addressees:

All medical licensees.

Purpose:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice (IN) to remind licensees of the importance of appropriate authorization before administration of byproduct material for medical use. It is expected that recipients will review this information for applicability to their licensed activities and consider actions, as appropriate, to avoid similar problems. However, suggestions contained in this IN are not new NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action nor written response is required.

Description of Circumstances:

Over the past year, NRC has become aware of cases involving the deliberate unauthorized administration of licensed material to humans. For example, on April 26, 2001, a nuclear medicine technologist deliberately administered an unauthorized dose of technetium-99m tagged methylene diphosphonate to a student. The student requested the administration of the licensed material for a bone scan. The technologist performed the bone scan without prior authorization from a physician.

Discussion:

The regulations of 10 CFR Part 35 provide that only an authorized user physician, or someone under the supervision of an authorized user, may administer licensed material for medical uses. In the case described above, the nuclear medicine technologist administered licensed material without the approval of an authorized user. Such action by the technologist resulted in an unnecessary radiation dose to the individual.

NRC expects licensees to ensure that their staff, including nuclear medicine technologists, and other persons supervised by physicians, fully understand and adhere to the requirements associated with the medical administration of licensed material. NRC will consider enforcement actions for both licensees and their staff when NRC requirements are knowingly violated, as in the case described above.

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This IN notice requires no specific action nor written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact the technical contact listed below or the appropriate regional office.

/RA/

Donald A. Cool, Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Attachments:
1. List of Recently Issued NMSS Information Notices
2. List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

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