

This Event is not for public disclosure per Agreement State request until 5/27/03

May 23, 2003

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-03-025

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region III staff on this date.

Facility

University Hospitals of Cleveland
Cleveland, Ohio
License: OH-02110180077
(Agreement State licensee)

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION

DESCRIPTION:

On May 22, 2003, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) notified the NRC Operations Center of an apparent medical brachytherapy misadministration at University Hospitals of Cleveland located in Cleveland, Ohio. The brachytherapy treatment involved introduction of 20 millicuries of iodine-125 seeds into the patient's prostate. The event is classified as a medical misadministration based on Ohio's current regulations for the medical use of radioactive material.

On May 19, 2003, ODH received notification from the licensee medical physicist of the apparent misadministration which occurred on May 13, 2003. Approximately one week after the treatment, on May 19, 2003, the licensee concluded that a misadministration had occurred. The treatment resulted in a distribution of seeds in areas other than prescribed. The licensee is presently determining the dose delivered to the unintended areas. Dose calculations have not yet been submitted to the State.

ODH is performing an investigation of the event. The licensee will submit a written report to ODH within 15 days. The patient and referring physician were notified of the misadministration.

The NRC's Office of State and Tribal Programs and Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards have been notified. The NRC's Region III (Chicago) Office is monitoring the State's investigation. This information was discussed with ODH and is current as of 9:00 a.m. CDT on May 23, 2003.

CONTACTS:

James Lynch
(630) 829-9661

Kevin Null
(630) 829-9854