



Status of Medical Events FY 2015

Donna-Beth Howe, Ph.D.
 Medical Radiation Safety Team
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Medical Events

The dose threshold for diagnostic events precludes reportable events most years.

Each year there are approximately 150,000 therapeutic procedures performed utilizing radioactive materials.



Medical Events 2015

- 46 Medical events reported - FY 2014
- 57 Medical events reported - FY 2015

	<u>FY14</u>	<u>FY15</u>
35.200	1	3
35.300	3	8
35.400	5	9 (10)
35.600	10	17
35.1000	27	20 (31)



Medical Events 2015

35.200 Medical events 3

Technetium-99m 2

- Administered entire 118 mCi multi dose vial to a single patient - 5.6 cGY (rad) whole body.
- Administered entire 160 mCi multi dose vial to a single patient - 7.8 cGY (rad) whole body.



35.200 Medical events (cont.)

Sodium Iodine I-123 1

Administered 136.53 MBq (3.69 mCi) prescribed 11.1 MBq (300 µCi) I-123 for a thyroid uptake study.

- Thyroid exposure of 536 mGy (53.6 rad).
- Physician's asked for correct dosage but Technologist ordered wrong dosage.
- Potential contributor - scheduling diagnostic procedure in therapy time slot contributed.

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Medical Events 2015

35.300 Medical events 8

Iodine 124	1
Iodine 131	6
Radium 223	1

6



35.300 Medical Events

Iodine-124 1

Administered 1.74 mCi - intended 3.25 mCi.

- Pediatric monoclonal antibody.
- Intravenous connector leaked but not visually obvious.

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35.300 Medical Events (cont.)

Iodine-131 6

- **Administered 50 mCi instead of 35 mCi.**
 - Patient had low Glomerular filtration Rate score.
 - 2 physicians ordered 2 different dosages both sent to facility wrong one (non-corrected) was selected.
- **Administered 30.8 mCi instead of 3 mCi.**
 - Written directive was wrong - delivered intended dose.
 - Authorized user complete the authorization section in its entirety prior to administration and peer review.

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35.400 Medical Events

Prostate (9 patients) 8
Identified during inspection

- **2 patients with Pd-103 implants.**
 - irregularities with one authorized user's (AU's) practices.
 - 37.6% and 66.9% of prescribed dose.
- **73% of prescribed dose.**

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35.400 Prostate Events (cont.)

Partial Dose intended but full dose given

- **Administered 16,000 cGy (rad) instead of 10,700 cGy (rad), 49.5% greater.**
 - Human error - confirm and document the intended implant dose when the implant is scheduled.

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35.400 Prostate Events (cont.)

Delivered different from ordered activity

- **Administered 18,432 cGy (rad) instead of 14,400 cGy (rad).**
 - Air kerma ordered but not prescribed in air kerma.
- **Administered 2.95 GBq (79.74 mCi) intended 3.796 GBq (102.6 mCi).**
 - Did not recognize the difference between the delivered and the ordered activity.

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35.400 Prostate Events (cont.)

Wrong site - poor /uncalibrated ultrasound

- **30% of the seeds were implanted outside the treatment site.**
- **All 53 seeds were implanted into the penile bulb with dose of to this unintended area of 10,800 cGy (rad).**

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35.400 Prostate Events (cont.)

Wrong site

- **Twenty of the seeds (29% of the total prescribed) were implanted into the bladder.**
 - Enlarged median lobe of prostate protruding into the bladder.
 - Procedure modification and personnel training.

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Medical Events 2015

35.600 Medical events **17**

HDR	16	
• Not specified		1
• Nose		1
• Gynecological		11
• Breast		3
Gamma knife	1(8)	

18

35.600 Medical events

HDR **16**

- Wrong Patient 1
- Error/Bad treatment plan 3
- Wrong Site 7
- Source fell out 1
- Physicist error 2
- Equipment problem/failure 2

19

35.600 HDR Events

Not specified **1**

- **Wrong Patient**
 - Treated Patient with another's treatment plan.
 - Patient received 18% less dose than prescribed.
 - Retrained on the requirement to verify the patient's identity prior to treatment.

20

35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Nose 1

- **Administered 6,850 cGy (rad) instead of 4,000 cGy (rad) 71% higher than written directive.**
 - Junior physicist developed deficient treatment plan.
 - Reviewed by the authorized medical physicist and the authorized user.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Gynecological 11

Wrong site 7

- **Outer vaginal mucosa and upper thigh received entire dose.**
 - Applicator improperly placed and the source placed inferior to the treatment site and exterior to the opening of the vagina.
 - Vaginal burning.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Outer vaginal mucosa and upper thigh received the entire 2100 cGy - radiation burns.**
 - Source inferior to the treatment site and exterior to the opening of the vagina.
 - Contributor – poor film quality due to obesity - thought it showed proper placement.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **2 skin (0.5 cm wide and 1 cm long) radiation burns on both upper thighs.**
 - patient's skin dose calculated to be 4,000 cGy (rad) at a depth of 0.2 cm.
 - 33% less dose to the intended site than prescribed by the written directive.
 - Either assembled the vaginal cylinder applicator incorrectly or it became loose while in the patient.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Fractional dose of 450 cGy delivered to wrong site.**
 - Physician had difficulty inserting applicator due to edema and tenderness.
 - Previous weeks post treatment images, showed the applicator was not where it was supposed to be.
 - Approximately 7 cm short of the intended position

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **260 cGy (rad), the second fractional dose, delivered to 1 cubic centimeter of skin on the right upper thigh.**
 - Close-ended catheter was not fully seated inside the vaginal cylinder.
 - Positioned approximately 15 cm proximal from the prescribed treatment position.
 - Now must verify the position of the cylinder and the length of the transfer tube catheter.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Tissue 3 cm in length inferior to the treatment site received 400 cGy (rad).**
 - Post-treatment imaging revealed the cylinder applicator had come loose from the holder and shifted 3 cm.
 - A resident and physician must now verify applicator immobilization prior to administration and reduce the time from applicator placement in the patient to administration.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Treatment site received 20 % of intended dose.**
 - Inserted the vaginal cylinder 3 cm distal to the vaginal cuff (intended treatment site).
 - Always use all four segments of the treatment cylinder and instructing staff to pay close attention to patient movement.
 - Additional imaging of cylinder placement also to be required.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)**Source fell out 1**

- **Administered 1,200 cGy (rad) instead of 1,800 cGy.**
 - Physicist entered room and found the cylinder on the treatment table.
 - Failure to secure the cylinder in place and the inability to view the cylinder on the camera.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)**Physicist error 2**

- **Administered 1,500 cGy (rad) during the three fractions instead of 900 cGy (rad).**
 - Physicist inadvertently selected and delivered an incorrect treatment plan of 900 cGy (rad) per fraction for the third fraction .
 - Skipped "best practice" step of verifying the treatment plan.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)**Physicist error (cont.)**

- **Administered 700 cGy (rad) during one of three fractions instead of 400 cGy (rad).**
 - Physicist loaded the patient's plan into the treatment control station, but then loaded another patient's treatment plan for review.
 - The physicist verbally verified the patient's information from memory, not from the computer screen containing the other patient's treatment plan.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)**Equipment problem 1**

- **Administered 105 cGy (rad) during second fraction instead of 1050 cGy (rad).**
 - Two AMPs engaged emergency stop, terminated treatment, and retracted the source to the shielded position.
 - On restart, the treatment countdown time was increasing, not decreasing.
 - Console indicated treatment terminated but source extension warning light was activated.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Breast (Savi) 3

- **3,000 cGy (rad) to an unintended site – incision site.**
 - Patient returned with pain and redness at the incision site of the left breast.
 - 21 cubic centimeters of tissue surgically excised.
 - Suspended treatments to investigate.
 - Considering using of a second physicist for independent evaluation of the treatment plan and the a written check-off form.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Breast (Savi) continued

- **Administered 13,000 cGy (rad) to entrance site 3 cm from treatment site - tissue would not heal mastectomy performed.**
 - Dose delivered to connector end and not the tip end.
 - Dwell positions within the applicator were not accurately reconstructed in the treatment planning computer.
 - Difficulty identifying the starting position for multiple catheter HDR treatments within the system.

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35.600 HDR Events (cont.)

Breast (Savi) continued

- **Administered 60 cGy (rad) instead of 340 cGy.**
 - Friction event occurred while sending out the check cable in the third channel and the HDR unit was unable to fully retract the check cable.
 - Faulty check cable revealed a fray approximately 0.5 cm behind the welded junction.
 - Total of 3 check cables had similar fraying.

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35.600 Medical Events

Gamma knife (Model Type C) 1

- **Administered 8.8 % more to treatment site and 71 cSv (71rem) to wrong site.**
 - 16 gamma knife collimators were placed where there should have been plugs prior to patient treatment.
 - Page three of the written directive which had the plug information was absent during equipment preparation.
 - Move plug use to first page of the written directive.

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Medical Events 2015

35.1000 Medical events (31 patients) 20

Perfexion (8 patients)	1
I-125 Seed localization	1
Y-90 Microspheres	18
Therasphere® (12 patients)	8
SirSphere®	10

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35.1000 Medical Events

Perfexion (8 patients) 1

- **8 patient administrations meet definition of medical event and may also meet abnormal occurrence criteria.**
 - Approximately 1.87 mm off target misalignment of the patient positioning system due to maintenance/service.
 - Elekta evaluating service issue.

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35.1000 Medical Events

I-125 Radioactive seed localization 1

- **Administered 83.6 cGy (rad), instead 18.4 cGy (rad).**
 - Due to illness, the patient was unable to return in 5 days and did not have seeds removed until 26 days after implantation.
 - Programmatic review identified other patients did not have their seeds removed until later than the 5 days but did not reach criteria for medical event reporting.

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35.1000 Medical Events

Y-90 Microspheres (22 patients) 18

Therasphere® (12 patients)	8
– Multiple patients (5)	1
– Wrong site	1
– Low flow rate –arteries	1
– Kink	1
– Radiation detector	2
– Remained in vial/tubing	2

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35.1000 Y-90 Events

Therasphere®

- **5 patients administered less than 80% of prescribed dose.**
 - Excess dose found in hub of catheters - all patients treated with smaller catheters.
- **Administered 874 MBq (23.62 mCi) to wrong lobe of liver.**
 - Intended for left lobe delivered to right lobe.
 - Injected microspheres into wrong artery.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Therasphere® (continued)

- **Administered 588 MBq (15.89 mCi) instead of 763 MBq (20.62 mCi).**
 - Size and physical condition of the patient's arteries caused a low flow condition during treatment.
- **Administered 5,220 cGy (rad) instead of 14,700 cGy (rad) to segment 6 to wrong lobe of liver.**
 - Kinking was noted at the junction of the rigid hub.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Therasphere® (continued)

- **Administered 62% of intended 15,000 cGy (rad).**
 - After "completion of procedure" Rados detector erroneously indicated 0 mR/hour in delivery system.
 - Microspheres left in vial.
- **Administered 60% of intended 12,000 cGy (rad).**
 - Problems with Rados detector contributed to event.
 - Activity concentrated at plunger attached to vial.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Therasphere® (continued)

- **Administered 84 Gy (8,400 rad) instead of 12,500 cGy (rad).**
 - Microspheres were trapped in the vial for an unknown reason.
- **Administered 9,815 cGy (rad) instead of intended 12,000 cGy (rad).**
 - Most of dose remained in D-line tubing with, with lesser amounts in micro-catheter and vial.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

SirSphere®	10
– Wrong site	4
– Error in Calculation	1
– Delivery system issue	2
– Operator error	1
– Clumping/Occluded	2

35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

SirSphere® Wrong Site 4

- **Kidney – renal artery**
 - Facility's first Y-90 microspheres patient and the manufacturer's representative was present.
 - Dose to the kidney calculated by the manufacturer to be 1,345 Gy (134,500 rad).
 - Formal written checklist completed prior to each administration, additional mapping imagines available for placement of the catheter, and second physician review of the catheter placement.

35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Stomach**
 - Administered 1.36 GBq (36.76 mCi) to liver instead of 2.12 GBq (57.4 mCi) but reached stasis.
 - Post-treatment scans indicated microspheres in stomach.
 - Calculations determined that the stomach contained 0.011 GBq (0.3 mCi) of Y-90 for a dose of 54.7 cSv (rem).

35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

- **Small Bowel**
 - Intended dose of 7,800 cGy (rad) to the liver.
 - Physician felt that the microspheres were not traveling to the liver and discontinued treatment.
 - Small bowel received a dose of 3,600 cGy (rad).

35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Wrong Site (continued)

Wrong liver site

- Administered 7,750 cGy (rad), instead 6,450 cGy (rad) posterior portion of the right lobe.
 - Received administration intended for the anterior portion of the right lobe of the liver.
 - Color coding procedure failed to prevent the incident will discontinue use of color coding dual doses.
 - Permit only one dosage of microspheres in the interventional radiology at a time.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

Dose calculation error

1

- Administered 1.37 GBq (37.03 mCi) instead of 1.09 GBq (29.43 mCi).
 - Physician prescribed activity based on a 20% reduction due to the lung shunt volume.
 - Both the pre-reduction and post-reduction activity values appeared in the written directive.
 - Activity calculations based on the pre-reduction value.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

- Administered 974.95 MBq (26.35 mCi) instead of 1.23 GBq (33.26 mCi).
 - Administration terminated - air bubbles were collecting in the tubing delivering the microspheres.
 - Microsphere delivery kit was set up incorrectly.
 - Air entered the device from an uncovered needle.
- Administered 384.8 MBq (10.4 mCi) instead of 658.6 MBq (17.8 mCi).
 - Administering device came apart during the procedure - microspheres were lost in the apparatus.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

- 42% of dose delivered.
 - During setup, patient's catheter disconnected to flush out potential air bubble.
 - Started administration without realizing that the line was still disconnected.
- 78.1% of dose delivered.
 - Clumping in the tubing near the 3-way stopcock.
 - Manufacturer determined cause was abnormally high concentration of microspheres being administered.

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35.1000 Y-90 Events (cont.)

- **52% of dose delivered.**
 - Physician concluded catheter was clogged when the injection of microspheres through the delivery system met with considerable resistance.
 - Lost some microspheres when catheter disconnected.
 - Manufacturer review of the equipment suggested that blood in the catheter caused the catheter to clog and was an indication that the catheter was not sufficiently flushed prior to infusion.

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Acronyms

- AMP – Authorized Medical Physicist
- AU – Authorized User
- cGy – centiGray
- FY – Fiscal Year
- GBq – Giga Becquerel
- HDR – High Dose Rate Remote Afterloader
- I-131 – Iodine-131 I-124 – Iodine-124
- mCi – millicurie μ Ci – microcurie
- MBq – Mega Becquerel
- Pts - Patients
- Y – Yttrium

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QUESTIONS?

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