



# **ACMUI Views on Revision to the NRC's Medical Uses Policy Statement**

**Bruce Thomadsen, Ph.D.**

**ACMUI Chairman**

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# **ACMUI Comments**

- **The ACMUI was asked to consider if the NRC should look into revisions to the policy on medical uses of byproduct materials.**
- **A subcommittee was formed to study the issue.**

# **Subcommittee Membership**

- **Philip Alderson, M.D.**
- **Milton Guiberteau, M.D.**
- **Chris Palestro, M.D.**
- **John Suh, M.D.**
- **James Welsh, M.D.**
- **Bruce Thomadsen, Ph.D., Chair**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 1979**

- 1. The NRC will continue to regulate the medical uses of radioisotopes as necessary to provide for the radiation safety of workers and the general public.**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 1979**

**2. The NRC will regulate the radiation safety of patients where justified by the risk to patients and where voluntary standards, or compliance with these standards are inadequate.**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 1979**

- 3. The NRC will minimize intrusion into medical judgments affecting patients and into other areas traditionally considered to be a part of the practice of medicine.**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 2000**

- 1. The NRC will continue to regulate the uses of radioisotopes in medicine as necessary to provide for the radiation safety of workers and the general public.**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 2000**

**2. NRC will not intrude into medical judgments affecting patients, except as necessary to provide for the radiation safety of workers and the general public.**



# **A Brief History of the Policy: 2000**

- 3. NRC will, when justified by the risk to patients, regulate the radiation safety of patients primarily to assure the use of radionuclides is in accordance with the physician's directions.**

# **A Brief History of the Policy: 2000**

- 4. NRC, in developing a specific regulatory approach, will consider industry and professional standards that define acceptable approaches of achieving radiation safety.**

# **Some Concerns (1)**

**There have been some concerns that some rules, for example involving the definition of medical events and training and experience, may have unduly affected medical practice without increasing safety.**

## **Some Concerns (2)**

**The revision of Part 35 seems to have alleviated these concerns and brought the rules into line with the policy.**

# **ACMUI's Recommendation**

**The ACMUI feels that the current statement provides for medical uses of radionuclides safely for patients, subjects, staff and the general public while avoiding intrusion into the practice of medicine, and no revision is warranted at this time.**

# **Acronyms**

**ACMUI – The Advisory Committee  
on Medical Uses of Isotopes**

**NRC – U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission**