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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Monday, May 9, 1994)

NRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR MEDICINE TO MEET

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes will meet in Bethesda, Maryland, on May 19 and 20.

The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn located at 8120 Wisconsin Avenue in Bethesda, Maryland, and will begin at 8 a.m. each day. Members of the public may observe the meeting with seating on a first-come, first-served basis, except for a session beginning at 4:30 p.m. on May 19, which will be closed.

Topics to be addressed at the meeting are:

-- a discussion by the NRC staff of the possible need to include quality assurance requirements with the requirements already governing the implant of radioactive sources to treat cancers (brachytherapy);

-- a presentation by the National Academy of Science on the progress of its effort to perform an independent review of the NRC's program for regulating the medical uses of radioactive materials;

-- a NRC staff discussion of the progress on a draft technical report dealing with the "Management of Radioactive Material Programs at Medical Facilities";

-- a request from the NRC staff for comments regarding the reporting of the inadvertent administration of radioactive material to the wrong patient or individual when the dose does not meet the NRC's criteria for a misadministration; and

-- consideration of the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology (AOBR) certification requirements and a recommendation as to whether AOBR-certified individuals meet the NRC's requirements governing training of individuals who use radioactive materials for therapeutic uses.

The committee also will receive status reports on NRC rulemaking actions including: a proposed rulemaking on the release from medical facilities of patients containing

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radiopharmaceuticals or permanent radioactive implants; proposed amendments on the preparation, transfer and use of radioactive materials for medical purposes; administration of radioactive materials or radiation from radioactive materials to patients who may be pregnant or nursing; and the proposed revision of criteria for reporting medical misadministrations of radioactive materials as abnormal occurrences.

Persons wishing to submit a written statement for inclusion in the meeting transcript should provide a reproducible copy to Mr. Larry Camper, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. The transcript of the meeting will be kept open until May 27 for this purpose.

Persons wishing to make oral statements should advise Mr. Camper in advance (telephone: 301/504-3417). Statements must address issues being addressed by the committee and must be supplemented by detailed written statements. Oral statements will be permitted at the discretion of the chairman, will be limited to five minutes, and will be based on the order in which requests are received.

At the discretion of the chairman, questions from attendees other than committee members and NRC staff and consultants also will be permitted.

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