

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION**

**November 9, 2000**

**PNO-RIII-000-40**

**LICENSEE:** Aultman Hospital

**EVENT NUMBER:** 37504

**FACILITY:** Aultman Hospital

**EVENT DATE:** 8 through 10/2000

**UNIT:**

**REGION:**

**Rx INFO:**

**LOCATION CODE:**

**DOCKETS:** State of Ohio Licensee

**CITY:** Canton

**STATE:** OH

**EMERGENCY CLASS:** not applicable

**SUBJECT:** BRACHYTHERAPY MISADMINISTRATIONS TO TWO PATIENTS

**CONTACT:** James Lynch 630/829-9661 Geoffrey Wright 630/829-9602

**DESCRIPTION:**

On November 8, 2000, the Ohio Bureau of Radiation Protection notified Region III (Chicago) that it had received a report of brachytherapy misadministrations to two patients at Aultman Hospital in Canton, Ohio. The misadministrations were found during a routine Quality Management Program audit by the hospital.

The misadministrations involved iridium-192 temporary implants for treatment of cervical cancer. The misadministrations occurred when the incorrect units were used in entering the source strength into a new treatment planning computer. The source strength was entered as milligrams radium equivalent instead of as millicuries.

As a result, one patient received a radiation dose of 3520 centigray (3520 rads) instead of the prescribed dose of 1980 centigray during a treatment in August.

A second patient received two treatments using the incorrect data. The first treatment in September was 3330 centigray instead of the prescribed 2000 centigray dose. The second treatment in October was 3500 centigray instead of the prescribed 2250 centigray dose.

Both patients received the brachytherapy treatments as part of a treatment plan that also included external beam therapy using a linear accelerator. The hospital reported that it did not expect any adverse effects of the brachytherapy misadministrations. One patient has been notified, and the second will be notified of the misadministrations.

The hospital will submit a written report to the Bureau of Radiation Protection.

Region III has notified the NRC Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and the Office of State and Tribal Programs. The information in this Preliminary Notification has been reviewed with the Bureau of Radiation Protection.

The state notified Region III of these misadministrations at 12:45 p.m. CST on November 8, 2000. The information is current as of that time.