

FOR ISSUANCE MONDAY, JULY 15, 2002

D:DNMS	DRA	RA
DDChamberlain	TPGwynn	EWMerschoff
<i>/CLCain for/</i>		
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July 12, 2002

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-02-036

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 IV staff on this date.

Facility

Syncor Pharmacy
Omaha, Nebraska
License No.: 01-65-01
Nebraska Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN VEHICLE CONTAINING RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS

DESCRIPTION:

On July 12, 2002, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) notified the NRC Operations Center that a courier vehicle transporting radiopharmaceuticals was stolen in Omaha, Nebraska, on July 5, 2002.

The licensee, Syncor Pharmacy, notified the HHS that a vehicle containing 4.63 gigabequerel (125 millicuries) technetium-99m was stolen in Omaha. As of July 11, 2002, the vehicle and its contents have not been recovered. Because of the natural decay of the radiopharmaceutical no residual radioactivity remains as of the date of this report. The local police were notified and there has been some media interest.

NRC received notification of this occurrence by phone from the State of Nebraska at 11:22 a.m. (EDT) on July 12, 2002.

Region IV has informed NMSS, OEDO, STP, and the region's PAO and SLO.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 1:00 p.m. (CDT) on July 12, 2002.

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