

RI - DNMS Licensee Event Report Disposition

Licensee: Saint Mary's Hospital
 Event Description: Radiation Mail Found at Landree
 License No: 06 00679-01 Docket No: 03 00124 MLER-RI: 2005-049
 Event Date: 7-21-05 Report Date: _____ HQ Ops Event #: _____

1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT *NA*

<input type="checkbox"/>	10 CFR 20.1906 Package Contamination	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 CFR 30.50 Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 CFR 20.2201 Theft or Loss	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 CFR 35.3045 Medical Event
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 CFR 20.2203 30 Day Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	License Condition
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____		

2. REGION I RESPONSE

<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate Site Inspection	Inspector/Date	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Inspection	Inspector/Date	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Telephone Inquiry	Inspector/Date	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preliminary Notification/Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daily Report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information Entered in RI Log	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Review at Next Inspection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report Referred To: _____		

3. REPORT EVALUATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Description of Event	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Corrective Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Levels of RAM Involved	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calculations Adequate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cause of Event	<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional Information Requested from Licensee

4. MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE 8.3 EVALUATION *NA*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Release w/Exposure > Limits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deliberate Misuse w/Exposure > Limits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeated Inadequate Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pkging Failure > 10 rads/hr or Contamination > 1000x Limits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exposure 5x Limits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large# Indivs w/Exp > Limits or Medical Deterministic Effects
<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential Fatality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unique Circumstances or Safeguards Concerns
<input type="checkbox"/>	If any of the above are involved:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Considered Need for IIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Considered Need for AIT
	Decision/Made By/Date: _____		

5. MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE 8.10 EVALUATION (additional evaluation for medical events only) *NA*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Timeliness - Inspection Meets Requirements (5 days for overdose / 10 days for underdose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Consultant Used-Name of Consultant/Date of Report: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Consultant Determined Event Directly Contributed to Fatality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Device Failure with Possible Adverse Generic Implications
<input type="checkbox"/>	HQ or Contractor Support Required to Evaluate Consequences

6. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMENTS

Non-Public

Inspector Signature: Richard W. McKinley

Date: 8/3/05

Public-SISP REVIEW COMPLETE JAH

Branch Chief Initials: JAH

Date: 11/3/05

St. Mary's Hospital
56 Franklin Street
Waterbury, Ct. 06706
FAX, 203 709 7788
Tel. 709 6021



FAX ST.MARY'S RADIOLOGY

To: Richard McKinley From: Amy R. Bullen
 Fax: 610-337-5269 Pages: 8
 Phone: 610-337-5102 Date: 7/28/05
 Re: Radioactive material CC: r/A
found @ Landfill
 Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

Please Review.

Thank You,

This information is released for your professional use and is privilege. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or and agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error and that any review, dissemination, copying or distribution of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original facsimile by mail. Thank-you for your cooperation.



Amy R Bullen
Director of Imaging Services
56 Franklin Street
Waterbury, CT 06706
203-709-6076

Richard W. McKinley
Health Physicist
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415
610-337-5269

Mr. McKinley,

This letter is to inform you of the follow up process Saint Mary's Hospital is taking after the radioactive material was found at the Torrington Land Fill. Since the incident we involved the following departments: Facilities, Security, Radiation Safety Committee, Quality Assurance, Compliance, Radiology, Administration, Plant Engineering and Risk Management. The details of the occurrence were reviewed and we are in the process of narrowing down the window of error. We are currently utilizing a DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control) method. While analyzing the occurrence we will be utilizing a root cause analysis.

During this time frame we have recorded the occurrence by submitting two incident reports to Risk Management. One Incident report notes the occurrence and includes additional chronological data from the Nuclear Medicine Department. The other includes a chronological summary from the Security Department. At this point we have made some conclusions and we are verifying our radioactive monitor background trigger level along with additional education to the facilities employees whom take out the garbage from the hospital.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this further or if you need any other information. If you would like the final report please contact me.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy R Bullen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amy R Bullen,
Director of Imaging Services
Saint Mary's Hospital

07/28/2005 09:13 2037897768
7/25/2005
10:26 AM

SMH RADIOLOGY
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL
PATIENT RELATIONS WORKSHEET
CONFIDENTIAL PATIENT INFORMATION
For Facility: ST MARY'S HOSPITAL

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PAGE 1

NON-VISITOR/ NON-EMPLOYEE 88-/7/21/05-1500

===== INCIDENT DATA =====

Date Received: 7/22/2005 Information Source:
No: 05-1079 Facility: ST MARY'S HOSPITAL
Date: 7/21/2005 Time: 12:36P Shift: A
Loc: DRIVEWAY Room No: REAR YARD
Depts: RADIOLOGY Empls: LUSIGNAN, LANCE
Phys Notified: N Risk Mgmt Notified: N Physician:
Inc Types: MISCELLANEOUS-OTHER Quantities: 1
Outcomes:
Significance: NOT APPLICABLE Parameters:
Treatment:
Comment:
Status: CLOSED

Comments/Abstract: ON THE ABOVE DATE AND TIME, I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM AMY BULLEN. AMY TOLD ME THAT RUI DASILVA RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NOTIFYING US THERE WAS A TRASH BAG CONTAINING A SMALL AMOUNT OF RADIOACTIVITY AT THE TORRINGTON TRANSFER STATION AND TO RETRIEVE IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SHE SAID THE HOSPITAL PHYSICIST STU KORCHIN RETRIEVED THE BAG FROM THE TRANSFER STATION SOMETIME AROUND 1315. KORCHIN ARRIVED AT THE THE MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING TO DISPOSE OF THE RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IN THE LONG TERM DISPOSAL BARREL LOCATED IN THE BASEMENT. RUI MET HIM THERE WITH THE SURVEY METER AND THE DEBRIS REGISTERED ABOUT 0.1 MR/HR. THE TRASH BAG WAS DISPOSED OF IN THE BARREL. AMY, STU, AND I MET AT THE RADIATION WASTE ALARM MONITOR IN THE XAVIER "C" STAIRWELL TO ENSURE THAT THE MONITOR WAS WORKING PROPERLY. THE RANGE LEVEL ON THE MONITOR APPEARS TO BE HIGHER THAN NORMAL. CLINICAL ENGINEER TED BARBEAU STATED THAT THE ANNUAL CALIBRATION OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY 6 MONTHS AGO. STEVE BERNIER WAS CONTACTED TO ENSURE THIS FIND WAS INDEED FROM OUR FACILITY AND NOT A SATELLITE AREA OF SMH. STEVE BERNIER DID CONFIRM THAT THE TRASH WENT OUT TODAY TO THE TORRINGTON TRANSFER STATION. THERE WAS ALSO SOME CONCERN THAT THE GARBAGE CONTAINED CONTENTS THAT POSSIBLY HAD PATIENT INFORMATION WRITTEN ON PAPER. AMY, RUI AND I THEN WENT TO THE BARREL TO OBTAIN THE GARBAGE AND EXAMINE THE CONTENTS. UPON EXAMINATION, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF A BREACH OF PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY. THE ONLY MATERIAL FOUND WAS SCRAPS OF PAPER WITH HANDWRITTEN CALCULATIONS, SMH MARKETING MATERIAL AND TUBING. THE CONTENTS WERE RETURNED TO THE GARBAGE BAG AND THEN PLACED BACK IN THE DRUM. WE WERE UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHICH UNIT THE PAPER CONTENTS CAME FROM. RUI WOULD CHECK ON WHICH PATIENTS RECEIVED RADIOACTIVE TREATMENTS FOR THE DAYS IN QUESTION. IT DOES APPEAR THAT OUR BACKGROUND TRIGGER LEVEL MAY BE HIGHER THAN THE RADIATION WASTE MONITOR AT THE TORRINGTON WASTE

NON-VISITOR/ NON-EMPLOYEE 88-/7/21/05-1500

Comments/Abstract: (Continued)

TRANSFER STATION. THIS MAYBE THE CAUSE FOR THE TRASH GOING UNDETECTED THROUGH OUR RADIATION WASTE MONITOR. ROBERT LEHMAN, MD THE RADIATION SAFETY OFFICER WAS NOTIFIED.

===== REFERRAL DATA =====

Referred To: RADIOLOGY-*Administrative Director* Person: AMY BULLEN

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

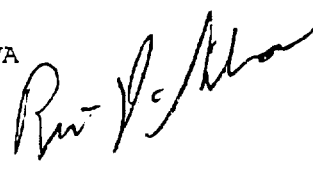
Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

Referred To: RADIOLOGY *Nuclear Med. Supervisor* Person: RUI DASILVA

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:



Referred To: ENGINEERING *Plant Director* Person: IVAN JOHNSON

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

Referred To: CLINICAL ENGINEERING-*Director* Person: TED BARBEAU

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

NON-VISITOR/ NON-EMPLOYEE 88-/7/21/05-1500

Referred To: RISK MANAGEMENT - *Manager* Person: BARBARA SULLIVAN

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

Referred To: OTHER - *Director Quality Improvement* Person: JIM TUCKER

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

Referred To: PURCHASING - *Director Materials Manag.* Person: STEVE BERNIER

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

Referred To: ADMINISTRATION - *Administrator* Person: THOMAS J. SENKER

Ref Date: 7/22/2005 Resp Expected: Resp Received:

Action: Disposition:

Reason: RADIOACTIVE TRASH FOUND AT TRANSFER STATION
Comment:

===== INTERVIEW DATA =====

Date	Time	Person Interviewed	Location
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Notes:

===== PT RELATIONS EXTENDED SCREEN DATA =====

Name: RUI DASILVA
DOB:
Phone: 6030
Street Address: NUCLEAR MEDICINE SMH

NON-VISITOR/ NON-EMPLOYEE 88-/7/21/05-1500

===== PT RELATIONS EXTENDED SCREEN DATA (continued) =====

City, State, Zip: WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT
Witness1 Name: STU KOCHIN - *Consultant*
Witness1 DOB:
Witness1 Phone: 6030
Witness1 Street Address: HOSPITAL PHYSICIST' SMH
Witness1 City, State, Zip: WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT
Witness1 Relationship:
Witness2 Name:
Witness2 DOB:
Witness2 Phone:
Witness2 Street Address:
Witness2 City, State, Zip:
Witness2 Relationship:
Witness3 Name:
Witness3 DOB:
Witness3 Phone:
Witness3 Street Address:
Witness3 City, State, Zip:
Witness3 Relationship:
Witness4 Name:
Witness4 DOB:
Witness4 Phone:
Witness4 Street Address:
Witness4 City, State, Zip:
Witness4 Relationship:
Witness5 Name:
Witness5 DOB:
Witness5 Phone:
Witness5 Street Address:
Witness5 City, State, Zip:
Witness5 Relationship:
Vehicle1 Year:
Vehicle1 Make:
Vehicle1 Model:
Vehicle1 License Plate:
Vehicle2 Year:
Vehicle2 Make:
Vehicle2 Model:
Vehicle2 License Plate:

Reporting Security Officer: LANCE LUSIGNAN 10

Security Supervisor:

Comments: 



To: Mr. Richard McKinley
From: Rui DaSilva
Date: 7-25-05

Landfill Radiation Alarm (7-21-05)

12:36pm: Call received in Nuclear Medicine, from a Fred Scheuretzal of the State Dept. of Environmental Protection Agency, notifying us there was a trash bag with a small amount of radioactivity in it. He stated it probably has a 2 hour half life since the activity at the truck scale has decayed to half what it was 2hrs. ago. He also stated he thought it may contain medical information in it. It was at the Torrington Transfer Station Landfill and to retrieve it as soon as possible.

12:45pm: S. Korchin, hospital physicist, was called and notified of trash bag. Stated he was on way home and would retrieve the bag. Stated this is what he routinely does for all of his clients.

2:10pm Physicist arrives at MOB Ramp garage with trash bag in his truck. Met R.DaSilva there, with a survey meter, measured this bag with about 0.1mr/hr at its highest level. The bag was then placed into the 55 gallon Long Term Disposal drum in the basement of that garage after Security Dept. opened up the room..

2:35pm Spoke with Amy Bullen, Director of Radiology, and explained situation.

2:45pm Spoke with Robert Lehman, M.D., Radiation Safety Officer, also notified.

3:05pm Showed Amy the Radiation Waste Alarm Monitor, off Slocum basement entrance ramp, and set off this alarm with the check source from our Survey Meter. Lance Lusignan, Head of Security, responded to the alarm and was appraised of situation. He stated background trigger level of 4.50 range appeared higher than usual (1.50-2.00kcps). Ted Barbeau, Director of Clinical Engineering notified and stated the unit had its annual calibration approx. 6mo. ago. Steve Bernier arrived at trash compactor trailer dumpster and stated one did go out that morning to the landfill from SMH.

3:25pm Lance, Amy and Rui removed bag from drum in ramp garage and examined outside paper contents. SMH posters and hand written calculations found along with some tubing. No patient names or pt. medical info noted. Contents and bag returned to drum for storage. Unable to determine which hospital Unit this came from. Check for radioactivity Monday.

Nuclear Medicine Inpatients done 7-19/20-05.
RL mr #446379 bone scan on 7-20

GL mr #421522 cardiac on 7-19
DP mr #060387 gb hida on 7-19

No radioactivity detected. All readings on bag surface at or below background levels on 7-25-05 at 11:15am. Utilizing a Ludlum 14c Survey Meter, las: annual calibration 12-07-04. T. Barbeau, Director Clinical Engineering present.

Root Cause Analysis and DMAIC have been started to establish cause of how trash bag got through and to prevent any re-occurrence.

Any further information, please advise.

Respectfully submitted:
R. DaSilva 7-25-05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rui J. Silva", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.