



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

June 15, 2006

Docket No. 03002983
EA No. 06-120

License No. 37-01374-03

C.J. Urlaub
Chief Administration Officer
Mercy Hospital
746 Jefferson Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510-1624

SUBJECT: INSPECTION 03002983/2006001, MERCY HOSPITAL, SCRANTON,
PENNSYLVANIA SITE

Dear Mr. Urlaub:

On April 10, 2006, Shirley Xu and Richard McKinley of this office conducted a safety inspection at the above address of activities authorized by the above listed NRC license. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selected examination of representative records. Additional information provided in your correspondence dated April 17, 2006 was also examined as part of the inspection. The enclosed inspection report documents the findings of the inspection, which were discussed with you and others at the conclusion of the on-site inspection and again by telephone on April 17, 2006. The report identifies that on seven separate occasions in September and October 2004, you did not secure or maintain constant surveillance over a High Dose Rate Remote Afterloader (HDR) containing licensed material. In addition, the report identifies the failure to verify HDR timer linearity over the typical range of use.

The NRC is evaluating these violations for appropriate enforcement actions. When we have completed our evaluation, you will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter at a later date. Please be advised that the number and characterization of apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review.

Current NRC regulations are included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **Nuclear Materials; Medical, Industrial, and Academic Uses of Nuclear Material**; then **Toolkit Index Page**. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **What We Do, Enforcement**, then **Enforcement Policy**. Or you may obtain these documents by contacting the Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-888-293-6498. The GPO is open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

C. J. Urlaub
Mercy Hospital

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The enclosed inspection report will not be made available for public inspection in the Public Document Room or electronically from ADAMS because it contains specific information concerning the isotopes, activities and locations of radioactive material authorized by your license.

Sincerely,

/RA/

George Pangburn, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Enclosure:
Inspection Report No. 03002983/2006001 (**Not Public in ADAMS**)

cc:
Samuel Payne, Radiation Safety Officer
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

C. J. Urlaub
Mercy Hospital

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