

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: VA Medical Center 3710 SW U.S. Veterans Hospital Road Portland, Oregon 97239		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE USNRC Region IV 611 Ryan Plaza Drive Arlington, Texas 76011-4005	
REPORT NUMBER(S) 2006-012			
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325	4. LICENSEE NUMBER(S) 03-23835-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION September 07, 2006	

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

- 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy, NUREG-1600, to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

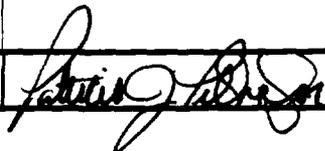
_____ Non-Cited Violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective Action(s):

- 4. During this inspection certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.

(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

Title	Printed Name	Signature	Date
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE			
NRC INSPECTOR	Anthony D. Gaines		10/3/06 09/29/2006

**Docket File Information
SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

RJP

1. LICENSEE VA Medical Center - Portland, Oregon		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE USNRC Region IV	
REPORT NUMBER(S) 2006-012			
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION September 08, 2006	
6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87131	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS 3.01-07		

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 2110	2. PRIORITY 2	3. LICENSEE CONTACT William K. Tuttle, III, PhD.	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER
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Main Office Inspection Next Inspection Date: _____

Field Office _____

Temporary Job Site _____

PROGRAM SCOPE

This was an unannounced inspection for VA permit 36-01395-01. The RSO is William K. Tuttle, III, PhD. VA-Portland is a medium size medical broad scope permittee of the VA master material license.

Technetium-99m is the most used isotope in nuclear medicine. They use unit doses ranging from 20-30 mCi per patient dose. There are 3 nuclear medicine technologists. The nuclear medicine workload is about 10 patients daily with bone, heart, lung, and MUGAs being the ones most performed. No generators, aerosols, or xenon are used. The permittee has not performed any brachytherapy for about 7-8 years. They perform about 20-25 procedures per year that require written directives. Of these the majority use I-131 for hyperthyroid or therapeutic treatments. They perform about 8-10 in-patient ablations a year. Nursing staff is trained in radiation safety annually with the RSO providing case specific training at the time of the therapy.

The research program consists of about 31 authorized users in about 6-8 active labs. They primarily receive H-3 and C-14 in mCi quantities, but use them in the µCi range. Other isotopes that are used in the µCi range are P-32, I-125, and S-35. No iodinations are performed. Authorized users are approved by the radiation safety committee through an internal permit process prior to using materials. Several labs were visited and interviews were conducted with authorized users as well as technicians. All personnel were knowledgeable in appropriate radiation safety practices. Radiation safety training is provided annually by the RSO.

Radioactive material for use in nuclear medicine and the research labs are ordered by the authorized users, delivered to nuclear medicine, and surveyed prior to being transferred to the respective departments. All labs are in areas that require key card access and the nuclear medicine hot lab has a cipher lock. There are no after hour deliveries of radioactive material. Radioactive waste is disposed of using the decay-in storage method. Instrumentation is calibrated by the RSO, annually, and all survey instruments in use were found to be calibrated at the appropriate frequency.