

NMED Item Number: 981105

Narrative:

Last Updated: 03/31/1999

The licensee reported the loss of three 13.9 MBq (376 uCi) I-125 brachytherapy seeds. Eight seeds were held as extra in a sterile steel container on the preparation table in the Operating Room (OR) during a prostate brachytherapy procedure. During the OR clean-up the closed container with the seeds was taken to the OR cleaning room and placed on a table. The OR technician placed the closed container into soapy water in a wash sink, opened it, washed it along with several other pieces of equipment, then drained the sink. The dosimetrist had recorded that there were eight seeds in the container, but he forgot to remove them from the pig prior to its rinsing by the OR technician. Five of the seeds were found in the sink's drain trap, but the other three seeds could not be traced or recovered. It is estimated that the radiation dose to the technician's hands was about 0.33 mGy (33 mrad).

Event Date: 11/03/1998 **Discovery Date:** 11/04/1998 **Report Date:** 11/04/1998

Licensee/Reporting Party Information:

Regulated By: NRC Reciprocity: NONE
 License Number: 13-06009-01 Name: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS OF INDIANA
 Docket Number: 03001625 City: INDIANAPOLIS
 Program Code: 02230 State: IN
 Responsible NRC Region: 3

Site of Event:

Site Name: INDIANAPOLIS State: IN

Additional Involved Party:

License Number: NA City: NA
 Name: NA State: NA

Other Information:

NRC Reportable Event: Y Abnormal Occurrence: N
 Agreement State Reportable Event: N Investigation: Y
 Atomic Energy Act Material: Y Record Complete: Field Not Used
 Consultant Hired: N Event Closed by Region/State: Y

Event Cause:

LAS - LOST/ABANDONED/STOLEN
 Cause: HUMAN ERROR

Corrective Actions Information:

LAS
Number: Corrective Action:
 1 PROCEDURE MODIFIED

Source/Radioactive Material Information:

LAS
 Source Number: 1
 Source/Material: SEALED SOURCE BRACHYTHERAPY Radionuclide: I-125
 Manufacturer: NR Activity (Ci): 0.000376
 Model Number: NR Leak Test Results (uCi): NR
 Serial Number: NR
 LAS

B/1

Source Number:	2	Radionuclide:	I-125
Source/Material:	SEALED SOURCE BRACHYTHERAPY	Activity (Ci):	0.000376
Manufacturer:	NR	Leak Test Results (uCi):	NR
Model Number:	NR		
Serial Number:	NR		

LAS

Source Number:	3	Radionuclide:	I-125
Source/Material:	SEALED SOURCE BRACHYTHERAPY	Activity (Ci):	0.000376
Manufacturer:	NR	Leak Test Results (uCi):	NR
Model Number:	NR		
Serial Number:	NR		

Reporting Requirement Information:

LAS

Reporting Requirement: 20.2201(a)(1)(i) - Lost, stolen, or missing licensed material in a quantity greater than or equal to 1,000 times the Appendix C quantities.

Keywords:

LAS

Keyword: MATERIAL LOST AND NOT FOUND

Reference Documents:

Reference Document Number:	Entry Date:	Retraction Date:	Type of Report:
EN34996	11/09/1998		EVENT NOTIFICATION
PN398053	11/09/1998		PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION
9811050359	01/06/1999		PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION
LTR981119	01/11/1999		LICENSEE REPORT
9811240043	01/14/1999		LICENSEE REPORT
9812090210	01/18/1999		LICENSEE REPORT
9901190199	03/30/1999		NOTICE OF VIOLATION
9901190197	03/30/1999		NRC LETTER