

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Duane Walker  
Vice President, Patient Services

FROM: Scott Dube  
Radiation Safety Officer

DATE: December 11, 1993

SUBJECT: NRC Inspection Follow-up: Nursing Training

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and Donna Christle on December 15, 1993 at 1:00 PM in your office. As you know, we need to discuss corrective actions regarding the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) cited violation regarding nursing training. The problem is specific to brachytherapy (radioactive implant) patients treated on T7E and T9E. Please be assured that we do have good compliance with the training requirement for the majority of nurses. However, the NRC demands nothing less than 100% compliance! We need to somehow meet that stringent goal.

As background information, I have enclosed the pertinent sections of the NRC Inspection Report and my response for your review. Donna and I have met and discussed possible corrective actions:

1. Include general radiation safety training in the new employee orientation for all new employees.
2. Include brachytherapy radiation safety in the nursing orientation for all new nurses.
3. Enforce the rule that no floats, flyers, or call-in nurses will care for brachytherapy patients.
4. Enforce the rule that untrained nurses will first read and sign the Self Learning Module before caring for brachytherapy patients.
5. Require the PCC and APCC to audit the nursing logsheets for compliance with the training requirement.
6. Require the Radiation Safety Officer to provide timely audits of the nursing logsheets for compliance with the training requirement.
7. Require trained nurses to supervise ancillary staff (such as IV therapists and respiratory therapists) when they perform services for brachytherapy patients.

We welcome your counsel in the resolution of this matter. Thank you in advance for supporting our radiation safety program.

cc: Donna Christle  
Lester Uyeda

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