

**NUCLEAR MATERIAL
EVENTS
DATABASE/NMED/CC01/INE
EL/US**

Sent by: Dante C
Huntsman/DHUN/CC01/INEEL
/US

To "Piskura, Deborah" <Deborah.Piskura@nrc.gov>
cc "Frazier, Cassandra" <Cassandra.Frazier@nrc.gov>,
"Wiedeman, Darrel" <Darrel.Wiedeman@nrc.gov>, Dante C
Huntsman/DHUN/CC01/INEEL/US@INEL

bcc
Subject RE: Information request for NMED item 090748 

12/21/2009 03:31 PM

I'm sorry Debbie, I have one more question concerning this incident. Did the patient receive dose (in rad) due to the I-131 residing in the feeding tube for several days prior to the tube being replaced (9/21 through 9/25/2009)? Also, I had asked for the activity of the I-131 prescribed and given, which you answered (187 mCi prescribed and 21 given). The other question I had was; what dose was prescribed and given to the patient's thyroid? I should have clarified that question with; the answer should be in rad or rem. Sorry about that. If you know how many rad the thyroid was prescribed and given that would be great. Thanks again for all your help,

Dante

"Piskura, Deborah" <Deborah.Piskura@nrc.gov>



"Piskura, Deborah"
<Deborah.Piskura@nrc.gov>

12/18/2009 01:56 PM

To "Frazier, Cassandra" <Cassandra.Frazier@nrc.gov>,
"Wiedeman, Darrel" <Darrel.Wiedeman@nrc.gov>,
"nmed@inl.gov" <nmed@inl.gov>

cc

Subject RE: Information request for NMED item 090748

Hello!

I am providing answers regarding the medical event at the VA San Diego as requested in your 12/02/2009 email.

What was the cause of the event (was it the feeding tubes fault, human error, etc.)?

The root cause of the incident was human error. The technologist injected the I-131 into the wrong port of the feeding tube.

What corrective action(s) were taken to prevent a recurrence?

The VA developed written procedures for g-tube administrations and will provide training to the nuclear medicine technologists

What was the activity of I-131 actually administer to the correct organ (thyroid)? Based on the licensee's investigation, only 21 mCi of the originally prescribed 200 mCi of I-131 was actually delivered to the patient's thyroid.

What dose was prescribed and given to the patient's thyroid?

The prescribed dosage was 200 mCi and actual dosage administered was 187 mCi. Based on the licensee's investigation and calculations, 166 mCi was retained in the balloon port of the g-tube.

If you need further clarification on this matter please feel free to contact me. We expect to issue the inspection report next month.

Debbie Piskura
Health Physicist
US NRC Region III
Materials Inspection Branch
630-829-9867

-----Original Message-----

From: Frazier, Cassandra
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 1:26 PM
To: Piskura, Deborah
Subject: FW: Information request for NMED item 090748

Hi Debbie,

We have received a request to provide information to NMED. As the lead inspector, could you provide the information directly to NMED or to me and I will provide to NMED. If you provide the information directly, could you cc me for my records.

Thanks,

Sandy

-----Original Message-----

From: NMED [mailto:nmed@inl.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 11:19 AM
To: Frazier, Cassandra; Wiedeman, Darrel
Cc: White, Duane
Subject: Information request for NMED item 090748

We need additional information to complete the NMED record identified below. To promptly complete the NMED record, we request a reply at your earliest convenience, but no later than 60 days from the date of this request.

NMED Item No.: 090748
Licensee/Reporting Party: V.A., DEPARTMENT OF
License Number: 03-23853-01VA
Event Date: 9/21/2009

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED

First of all, with the patient's feeding containing 80 mCi of I-131 upon removal, what was the calculated/estimated exposure to the tissue around that tube? Does that dose exceed the AO criteria?

What was the cause of the event (was it the feeding tubes fault, human error, etc.)?

What corrective action(s) were taken to prevent a recurrence?

What was the activity of I-131 actually administered to the correct organ (thyroid)?

What dose was prescribed and given to the patient's thyroid?

Thank you for your help,

Dante Huntsman
NMED Project
Dante.Huntsman@inl.gov