



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

April 24, 2013

Docket No. 03001321

License No. 08-03075-07

Wayne A.I. Frederick, Sr., M.D., MBA, F.A.C.S.
Provost and Chief Academic Officer
Howard University Hospital
2041 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20060

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 03001321/2013001, HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, WASHINGTON, D.C. SITE

Dear Dr. Frederick:

On February 4 – 5, 2013, Maryann Abogunde and Robert Gallagher of this office conducted a safety inspection at the above address and at radioactive waste storage locations at Annex I, on 501 Bryant Street, N.W., and at the Annex II staging area on the north side of W Street, N.W., between 4th and 6th Streets, Washington, D.C., 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 selective examination of representative records. Additional information provided in your correspondence dated February 5 and February 12, 2013, were also examined as part of the inspection. The findings of the inspection were discussed with Satya R. Bose, Ph.D., DABR, Office of the Provost, Director of Radiation Safety, Chief Clinical Physicist and Radiation Safety Officer; Alice A. Mahan, Departmental Executive Officer; Sergei Nekhai, Ph.D., Department of Medicine – Associate Professor, Co-Director of the Center for Sickle Cell Disease, Radiation Safety Committee Chair; and Erica Russell, Program Coordinator, Radiation Safety Office, at the conclusion of the inspection on March 12, 2013.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were identified. However, during the inspection, the inspectors expressed concern that oversight of your nuclear medicine and radiation oncology programs is managed separately (Dr. Bose overseeing the radiation oncology program and Dr. Marlene McKetty overseeing the nuclear medicine program) with limited communication and turnover between both individuals. The inspectors reminded your representatives of the need to perform, at least annually, a review of the radiation protection program content and implementation as a whole in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1101.

In addition, your previous inspection (Inspection Report 2012-001) resulted in two Severity Level IV violations involving: (1) the failure to provide the required training to all of your hazmat employees as required by Subpart H to 49 CFR Part 172; and (2) the failure to apply for and receive an amendment before using a cesium-137 sealed source that was authorized only for temporary storage in a J.L. Shepherd & Associates Model 28-5 calibrator. During the inspection, the inspectors reviewed the corrective actions taken, which included the following:

- (1) The licensee provided training to the two radiation safety technicians involved on April 13, 2012, and previously submitted copies of their training certificates. The inspectors reviewed training records and the Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) meeting minutes following the last inspection, and verified that this issue was discussed during their meeting dated June 6, 2012. This violation is closed.
- (2) The licensee ceased use of the calibrator containing the cesium-137 source, decommissioned the unit and disposed of the source and device through J.L. Shepherd & Associates, and now sends survey instruments to the manufacturer, Ludlum Measurements, Incorporated, for calibration. In addition, the licensee submitted an amendment request dated November 26, 2012, to remove this authorization from their license, and received an updated license issued February 7, 2013. The inspectors reviewed the records of transfer/disposal and the RSC meeting minutes, and verified that this issue was discussed during their meetings dated June 6 and November 14, 2012. This violation is closed.

Current NRC regulations and guidance are included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **Nuclear Materials; Med, Ind, & Academic Uses**; then **Regulations, Guidance and Communications**. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **About NRC, Organizations & Functions; Office of Enforcement; Enforcement documents**; then **Enforcement Policy (Under 'Related Information')**. You may also obtain these documents by contacting the Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-866-512-1800. The GPO is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

No reply to this letter is required. Please contact Maryann Abogunde at (610) 337-5090 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

The NRC's Safety Culture Policy Statement became effective in June 2011. While a policy statement and not a regulation, it sets forth the agency's *expectations* for individuals and organizations to establish and maintain a positive safety culture. You can access the policy statement and supporting material that may benefit your organization on NRC's safety culture Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/safety-culture.html>. We strongly encourage you to review this material and adapt it to your particular needs in order to develop and maintain a positive safety culture as you engage in NRC-regulated activities.

Sincerely,

Original signed by James P. Dwyer

James P. Dwyer, Chief
Medical Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:
Satya Ranjan Bose, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer
District of Columbia

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 James P. Dwyer, Chief
 Medical Branch
 Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:
 Satya Ranjan Bose, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer
 District of Columbia

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Complete: MAbogunde After declaring this document "An Official Agency Record" it **will** be released to the Public.

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DATE	4/24/2013		4/24/2013		4/24/2013		