

Duran-Hernandez, Doris

From: Kathy Burrows <kathyburrows@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 11:39 AM
To: Howe, Donna-Beth
Subject: [External_Sender] RAI

Dear Ms. Howe,

As someone who took 166 Mi of radio active iodine in January 2012, I can tell you that swallowing a radio active substance was one of the most frightening things I have experienced in my 62 years. The next most frightening thing was knowing that just riding in the elevator after swallowing the RAI could cause exposure to an innocent person. I stayed at a friend's vacant home for one week immediately after I left the nuclear medicine department of Fresno Community Regional Medical Center but so many people do not have that opportunity. Instead they must return to their own home and risk radioactive exposure to their loved ones, including pets.

I asked my doctors (and I had many during my treatment for papillary thyroid cancer - stage 3) why I was not put in an isolation room at a medical facility. I was told it was no longer deemed necessary by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. If you personally do not think it is necessary, ask yourself if you would have wanted me as a house guest immediately following my RAI treatment? Adding to my distress and also to my family's was the fact that I could expose them to radio active substances within my body.

It was frightening enough to have cancer that had spread to lymph glands and to have to undergo what I considered a very frightening treatment (also very successful I might add) but the fear of exposing my family was even greater than my fear for myself.

Please consider the issue of public safety and unnecessary exposure to radiation when you meet today. Please vote to change the regulations and make isolation a mandatory condition of treatment. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my thoughts on this matter.

Kathy Burrows
Five Years Cancer Free!
Fresno, California
(559) 313-1936 phone

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