



**Medical Events Report FY 2016  
Reported 10/1/15 - 9/30/16**

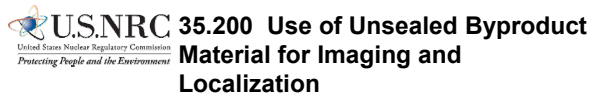
Ronald D. Ennis, M.D.  
Advisory Committee for the Medical  
Uses of Isotopes  
September 11, 2017

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- Ronald D. Ennis, M.D. (Chair)
- Susan Langhorst, Ph.D.
- Michael O'Hara, Ph.D.
- Christopher Palestro, M.D.
- John Suh, M.D.
- Pat Zanzonico, Ph.D.

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**8 events:** 7 <sup>99m</sup>Tc & 1 <sup>18</sup>F-FDG

1. Entire 4.74 GBq (128 mCi) multidose vial of <sup>99m</sup>Tc-diphosphonate administered to one patient  
8 cGy whole body

Cause

Staff member did not confirm amount of activity to be administered

Corrective action

Licensee will no longer prepare kits

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2. Intravenous port leak  
Skin exposure exceeded 50 (cSv)(rem)
3. 88 MBq (2.4 mCi) unfiltered <sup>99m</sup>Tc-sulfur colloid, intended for gastric emptying study, administered for lymphoscintigraphy, instead of prescribed 18.5 – 37 MBq (500 uCi-1 mCi) filtered <sup>99m</sup>Tc-sulfur colloid  
Potential 58.08 - 273.6 cSv (rem) to skin

Corrective action

Technologist must verbally confirm activity and procedure with physician prior to administration

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**35.200 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material for Imaging and Localization**

- 1.11 GBq (30 mCi) <sup>99m</sup>Tc-diphosphonate, instead of 18.5 MBq (500 uCi) <sup>99m</sup>Tc administered for sentinel node procedure

Cause

Miscommunication

Technologist failed to confirm patient identity with procedure

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**35.200 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material for Imaging and Localization**

- 373 MBq (10.1 mCi) Tc-99m tetrofosmin administered to wrong patient

Cause

Not specified

Corrective action

Being developed

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**35.200 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material for Imaging and Localization**

- 925 MBq (25 mCi) <sup>99m</sup>Tc-diphosphonate, instead of 18.5 MBq (500 uCi) <sup>99m</sup>Tc-sulfur colloid administered for gastric emptying procedure (retracted 8/2/2016, CFR dose limits not exceeded)

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**35.200 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material for Imaging and Localization**

- 199.8 MBq (5.4 mCi) <sup>99m</sup>Tc-hepatobiliary agent, instead of 18.5 MBq (500 uCi) Tc administered for gastric emptying


Cause

Human error

Corrective action

Order capture procedure changed and technologists retrained

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 **U.S.NRC 35.200 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material for Imaging and Localization**  
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8. 603.1 MBq (16.3 mCi) <sup>18</sup>F-FDG administered to wrong patient


Cause

Human error: Two patients with same last name  
Order & supporting documentation confusing

Corrective action

Technologist review with supervisor  
Workflow sheet revision


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 **U.S.NRC 35.300 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material, Written Directive Required**  
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**5 events**

<b>Radium-223:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Samarium-153:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Iodine-131:</b>	<b>1</b>

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 **U.S.NRC 35.300 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material, Written Directive Required**  
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**<sup>223</sup>Ra**

1. Pt. received 4.41 MBq (119.3 uCi) Ra-223 instead of prescribed 3.21 MBq (86.7 uCi)


Cause

Technologist failed to confirm patient's identity and weight prior to radiopharmaceutical administration

Corrective action

Institution of additional administrative actions

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 **U.S.NRC 35.300 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material, Written Directive Required**  
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2. Pt. received 3.7 MBq (99.4.µCi) instead of prescribed 36.3 MBq (980 µCi)

Cause

Failure to observe discrepancy between prescribed and calibrated activity


Licensee believed AU intended to prescribe 98 µCi (more typical dosage)

Corrective action

Activity will be listed in microcuries instead of millicuries


N.B. Licensee correct

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3. Pt. received Ra-223 at a clinic that is not an authorized use location for this material. Not administered by an AU  
Clinic may, prior to merger, have been Authorized Use Location and MD previously may have been AU.  
AU review indicated that amount of activity prescribed was appropriate  
Corrective action  
All future treatments will be administered at an authorized facility with an AU

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 **U.S.NRC 35.300 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material, Written Directive Required**  
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- <sup>153</sup>Sm**
1. Patient received 3.22 GBq (86.9 mCi) instead of 2.48 GBq (67.13 mCi).  
Cause  
Dosage from pharmacy was not correctly calculated for patient weight

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 **U.S.NRC 35.300 Use of Unsealed Byproduct Material, Written Directive Required**  
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- <sup>131</sup>I**
1. Pt. received 1.96 GBq (53 mCi) instead of 4.47 GBq (120.8 mCi)  
Cause  
Total activity delivered in two capsules, but only one capsule administered  
Corrective action  
Licensee to revise procedures for transfer of radioactive materials

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 **U.S.NRC 35.400 Non-Prostate Manual Brachytherapy**  
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- Cervix Cs-137**
- Sources: 44.46 mCi, 33.73 mCi, 25.39 mCi, 25.39 mCi.  
(Unspecified which sources in tandem)
- Catheter containing sources for tandem placed in wrong well for transport to patient room
  - End of catheter crushed by cover of transport shield
  - Unable to insert fully into tandem
  - Catheter cut off to enable fit
  - Result in sources not fully inserted


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 **U.S.NRC 35.400 Non-Prostate Manual Brachytherapy**  
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**Cervix Cs-137 cont.**


Underdose of tumor 1500 cGy instead of 3460 cGy  
Overdose to lower rectum and vagina of 3492 cGy  
Cause – inadequate training and written procedures contributed to human error  
Corrective action – revising procedures, training personnel, improved supervision

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 **U.S.NRC 35.400 Prostate Manual Brachytherapy**  
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- 1 hospital with 2 events with Pd-103. D90 67% and 71% of prescribed 12,500 cGy. Unclear if would be ME based on new ME definition. No additional information such as root cause analysis provided.
- This led to retrospective investigation and an additional 13 events found. No details provided re: these.

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 **U.S.NRC 35.400 Prostate Manual Brachytherapy**  
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- I-125. D90 70%. But, 92% of activity was implanted in prostate (16.039 mCi out of planned 17.404 mCi). So, would not have been ME based on new definition. AU gave additional external radiation. Cause attributed to human error
- I-125: D90 60%, based on activity 58% implanted in prostate. Found by hospital in 2014. Discovered by regulator on inspection in 2015. Cause: Human error. Corrective action: Procedure modification and new training

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 **U.S.NRC 35.400 Prostate Manual Brachytherapy**  
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- I-125: D90 67%. No comment on activity. Cause seed migration. Corrective action: New training, new technique
- 1-125: Implanted a mass mistakenly thought to be prostate due to abnormal anatomy. Corrective action: New quality management plan, new written procedures and training.

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Event Site	Number of Events
Prostate	2
Gynecological	2
Skin	1

- 1 wrong positioning of catheter
  - Thigh (instead of vagina) treated with 1000 cGy inadvertently, resulting in skin wound. Modified procedures.
- 1 wrong patient's plan delivered
  - Instituted time out policy.

- 3 Equipment failures
  - 3 partial treatments. All worked with manufacturer and fixed or no problem found. Seems that treatment was eventually completed for two patient. No information about what was done as a consequence of the event for the other. (Delivered 103 cGy of planned 600 cGy for that treatment.)


Gamma Knife Perfexion – 3 events

1. Treatment of right rather than left trigeminal nerve.
2. Treatment stopped to sedate patient. After 2 mins of restarting treatment, patient moved significantly. Frame was not in position at end of treatment. Timing of frame being dislodged is uncertain (not reportable).
3. Frame adapter was in the wrong position. Displaced distance was 2 cm in the direction of one plane. Error was attributed to using a new adapter without having received proper training from the manufacturer.

 **U.S.NRC 35.1000 Perflexion**  
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**Corrective Actions**

- Procedure modification for incorrect treatment site.
- Proper training when using new frame adapters

 **U.S.NRC 35.1000 Y-90 Microspheres**  
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	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
All <sup>90</sup> Y Microspheres	13	23	14	19
SIR-Spheres*	10	16	6	7
TheraSpheres	3	7	8	12

\* ~8,400 doses sold in US in calendar year 2016

 **U.S.NRC 35.1000 Y-90 Microspheres**  
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**Brachytherapy**

16 / 19 – Wrong dose: 3-80% (14), 119-129% (2\*)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 – Obstruction in tubing</li> <li>1 – Human error: Unspecified activity incorrectly assayed</li> <li>1 – Human error: Liver volume incorrectly calculated*</li> <li>1 – Human error: Activity incorrectly calculated*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – Human error: Excessive activity left in vial</li> <li>1 – Leak through needle hole in vial septum</li> <li>1 – Breach of procedure: 3-way stopcock in circuit</li> <li>4 – Cause not specified (possibly stasis?)</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

 **U.S.NRC 35.1000 Y-90 Microspheres**  
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**Brachytherapy**

4 / 19 – Wrong site (incorrect liver segment)

    2 / 4 – “Catheter tip moved”

1 / 19 – Wrong patient / Wrong dose/ Wrong site

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- For under-doses where administered activity <75% of prescribed activity: Patients generally re-treated
  - For over-dose: No clinically demonstrable liver toxicity

 **U.S.NRC 35.1000 Radioactive Seed Localization**  
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2 / 2 – Radioactive seeds not removed as scheduled due to deterioration of patient condition and risk of surgery  
 1 – Seeds removed 2 months later; 297 cGy to 1 cm, 40 cGy dose to breast  
 1 – Seeds not removed as of last report (3 month post-implantation); 73 cGy dose to breast

Patient intervention, not MEs?

 **U.S.NRC Summary of MEs FY13-FY16**  
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	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
35.200	2	6	4	8
35.300	2	4	7	5
Manual brachy	16	5	8	7
HDR	8	9	13	5
GK	2	2	1	3
Microspheres	13	23	14	19
RSL	1	2	0	2

 **U.S.NRC Conclusions**  
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- No obvious trends or patterns but there are two lead causes:
  - Errors that could be detected by a “time out” prior to treatment/procedure (N=~9)
  - Microspheres
- Each year there are ~15M diagnostic and 150K therapeutic procedures performed utilizing radioactive materials
- The tiny fraction presented here today is reassuring and confirms the generally safe fashion these materials are administered to patients in the USA

 **U.S.NRC Acronyms**  
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- cm – centimeter
- Cs – Cesium
- FY – Fiscal Year
- Gy – Gray
- HDR – High dose-rate
- I – Iodine
- MBq – megabequerel
- mCi – millicurie
- ME – Medical Event
- Pd – Palladium
- Pt(s) – Patient(s)
- QA - Quality Assurance
- rem – roentgen equivalent in man
- Y- Yttrium