

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: John D. Dingell VA Medical Center 4646 John R. Street Detroit, MI REPORT NUMBER(S) 2019006		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE Region III U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210 Lisle, IL 60532-4352	
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION 2/25&26/19	

LICENSEE:
The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.

2. Previous violation(s) closed.

3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy, to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

_____ Non-cited violation(s) were discussed involving the following requirement(s):

4. During this inspection, certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited in accordance with NRC Enforcement Policy. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.
(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Statement of Corrective Actions

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the Inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

TITLE	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE			
NRC INSPECTOR	Robert G. Gattone, Jr.	<i>Robert G. Gattone, Jr.</i>	3/11/19
BRANCH CHIEF	Patricia Pelke	<i>Patricia Pelke</i>	3/15/2019

Docket File Information

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6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87131, 87130	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS 02.01-02.07, 02.01-02.07
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SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 03614	2. PRIORITY 2	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Ed Leidholdt	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (707) 562-8374
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Main Office Inspection Next Inspection Date: N/A

Field Office Inspection

Temporary Job Site Inspection

PROGRAM SCOPE

This was an unannounced routine inspection of the permittee's radiation protection program. The permittee conducted thyroid uptakes about 2 per week, diagnostic scans about 25 per week, including SPECT parathyroid, planar bone scans, bone SPECT, Ioflupane I-123 brain SPECT, renal scans, lung scans, liver and spleen scans, gastrointestinal bleed scans, and sodium iodide I-131 for treatment of thyroid cancer and goiter. The permittee had 4 nuclear medicine technologists (NMTs). In addition, the permittee had a safety manager who was involved with the permittee's radiation protection program. The permittee conducted research periodically involving in-vitro radioimmunoassay tests using low microcuries of iodine-125.

Performance Observations

The inspector: (1) observed that the hot lab and other rooms that contained licensed material were secured and posted as required; (2) noted that the permittee was aware of the new Part 35 implementation; (3) reviewed selected records of patients' iodine-131 thyroid treatments, including written directives, administered dosage activities, and records showing the bases for releasing the patients such that the radiation dose from the patient to other individuals will be less than 500 millirem, including in part, ambient exposure dose rates of the patients; (4) noted that the permittee used 2 independent means of verifying the patients' identities prior to administering licensed material to the patients; (5) noted that the dosages were measured in a dose calibrator to verify that the proper dosage was correct prior to administration; (6) reviewed dosimetry badge results for annual whole body and extremity doses, and the doses were well below the annual limits; (7) reviewed selected records of sealed sources and there were no concerns; (8) observed an NMT demonstrate how she performed a dose calibrator constancy check; (9) observed an NMT prepare a Tc-99m Sestamibi dosage, including measuring the dosage in the dose calibrator, wearing gloves and a lab coat, using a syringe shield and a lead pig, using whole body and extremity dosimeter badges, and use of a required syringe label; (10) observed an NMT administer the Tc-99m Sestamibi to a patient; (11) observed that the permittee had 2 calibrated survey meters in the nuclear medicine department; (12) observed the NMT place the radioactive waste into a shielded container for decay-in-storage; (13) verified that the permittee gave Lugol's iodine to patients 1 hour prior to administration of Ioflupane I-123 to block the patients' thyroid gland; and (14) reviewed selected records for dose calibrator calibrations.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified as a result of this inspection.