WINONA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

R. I. Vestch, M.D., Director Diplomat American Board of Nuclear Medicine NUCLEAR MEDICINE DEPARTMENT

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DOTALT MULLEP PR- 35 43 FR 29 29 August 23, 1979

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

AUG 3 0 1979 ATT

The Medical Isotope Committee of Winona Memorial Hospital in an August 1, 1979 meeting discussed proposed N.R.C. license requirements changes relating to the use of radioisotope in Nuclear Cardiology. Included in our Committee is a board certified cardiologist. It was unanimous feeling of our Committee that our institution is a very prime example in the result of a positive communication and cooperation between Nuclear Medicine and Cardiology. We feel that this is the most effective and beneficial use of Nuclear Cardiology for the very noninvasive information that can be obtained for our patients.

We feel that an isolated 3 month training program outside of organized residencies subverts the proven training process. It would also tend to duplicate services in several departments with very expensive equipment and decrease the utilization of existing equipment. A subverted training program which might allow noncertified cardiologists and physicians who have not taken an approved cardiology, Nuclear Medicine or Radiology training program could lead to a lack of radiation safety increasing undesirable exposure to patients and personnel.

It is also felt, especially by the cardiologists, that broad training in Nuclear Medicine is necessary for the practice of Nuclear Cardiology, and experience in Nuclear Cardiology alone is not an adequate preparation for the practice of that portion of the specialty.

We therefore oppose the proposed changes in license requirements for physicians limiting their use of radioisotopes to Nuclear Cardiology.

Sincerely,

R.I. Veatch, M.D., Chairman Medical Isotope Committee Winona Memorial Hospital

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