

Middlesex General Hospital

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June 20, 1979

NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT RO.

Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Attn: Docketing and Service Branch

RE: Change and character of Medical Isotopes Committee

to Radiation Safety Committee

Dear Sir:

On review of the proposed change, I feel that the proposed rule is basically a good one. However, further modification is suggested. I am speaking now for the Medical Isotopes Committee of this institution, as well as myself. We feel that the Radiation Safety Committee should be chaired by a Nuclear Medicine physician specialist. In those institutions having a Nuclear Medicine Division or Department, the director of such a division or department should be the chairperson of the Radiation Safety Committee.

We feel that the large part of a Radiation and Safety Program will be concerned with the clinical use of radioisotopes. We have already had the experience of physicians attempting to use radiopharmaceuticals in a patient as part of a clinical work-up without going to Nuclear Medicine service. The medical use of radioisotopes should be tightly controlled within an institution, and all studies should be worked out under the supervision, if not always the participation, of a Nuclear Medicine service of an institution and 'ts Medical Isotopes Committee, or Radiation Safety Committee.

Thank you,

TJS:jd

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Sincerely,

Theodore J. Stahl M.D

Chairman

Medical Isotopes Committee & Director of Nuclear Medicine.

Acknowledged by card. dlh 7/a/7