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DIVISION OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE
THE CENTER FOR THE HEALTH SCIENCES
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

June 6, 1979

Secretary
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attn: Docketing & Service Branch

Ref: Docket #PRM-35-1

Dear Sirs:

I am sending you this letter to express my full support of the petition of George V. Taplin, M.D. who requested that the commission reconsider and rescind the requirement that physicians must use an approved radiopharmaceutical strictly in accord with the manufacturers package insert as published in the Federal Register (44 FR 10358).

The whole purpose of a patient seeing a physician is to have that physician address himself to the problems of the patient and to diagnose and devise a method of overcoming the patient's illness. Over the years the ingenuity of physicians has led to the development of near miraculous techniques in both the diagnosis and treatment of human disease. Physicians must be free to adapt and modify existing techniques to specialized situations if we are to see an optimal result of the use of existing knowledge as well as continuing development of new knowledge which will form the shape of medical care in the future. The referenced regulation takes away the physician's prerogative to vary the dose levels and the indicators in the case of radionuclides. This type of regulation - in my considered opinion - will prove to be counterproductive. It will provide a chilling effect on the innovative spirit and it will tie the hands of those physicians who have good and valid clinical reason to vary from the instructions given in the manufacturers package insert.

Frankly, I am very surprised that such a regulation was ever approved by the commission in the first place, I believe that it should be rescinded as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Milo M. Webber

Milo M. Webber, M.D.

MW:pd

cc: G.V. Taplin, M.D.

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Acknowledged by card. 6:21:79 wsh

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