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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-89-66 Date: November 17, 1989

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: Desert Good Samaritan Hospital
Phoenix, Arizona

Licensee Emergency Classification
___ Notification of Unusual Event
___ Alert
___ Site Area Emergency
___ General Emergency
X Not Applicable

LICENSE NO.: Arizona #7-106
Agreement State Licensee

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT STATE MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC MISADMINISTRATION

The State of Arizona reported to the NRC that a diagnostic misadministration had taken place at Desert Good Samaritan Hospital on November 1, 1989. A patient scheduled for a thyroid image scan was inadvertently given a dose of 100 millicuries of I-131 rather than 100 microcuries and sent home. A dose of 100 millicuries can be expected to destroy the thyroid and would result in the significant excretion of radioiodine in areas immediately adjacent to the patient. The State was notified on November 2, 1989, and immediately dispatched an inspector to the site. The hospital called in the family for thyroid evaluations and hospitalization of the patient. The inspector and hospital technologist proceeded to the patient's home and decontaminated the home and family car. The ongoing State investigation has uncovered possible bypassing of required procedures by both the hospital and the radiopharmacy. The State is considering orders to modify or suspend I-131 use at the hospital until the licensee can show how future misadministrations can be prevented. The State will cite the hospital and the pharmacy and is considering civil penalties for the hospital.

Region V was informed of the details of this event from the State by telephone on November 16, 1989 at 4:00 P.M. (PST). This information is current as of 9:00 AM (PST) November 17, 1989.

Contact: Jack Hornor, FTS 463-3760
Region V

8911270091 891117
PDR I&E
PNO-V-89-066 PDC

DISTRIBUTION BY 5520:

Date 11-17-89 Time 9:00 A.M. PST

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FAX TO:

Date 11-17-89 Time 9:30 AM PST

INPO
NSAC
LICENSEE
RESIDENT INSPECTOR
HQS. OPERATIONS OFFICER
PDR

MAIL TO:

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NRCRV-OPER 19-0112

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