

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-89-69 Date: Dec. 4, 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: Kuakini Medical Center  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
NRC License No. 53-17797-01

*Docket 30-13337*

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

SUBJECT: THERAPEUTIC RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL MISADMINISTRATION

The licensee reported to the NRC that a therapeutic misadministration had taken place at their facility on November 30, 1989. A patient scheduled for a diagnostic technetium-99m bone scan was inadvertently given a therapeutic dose of 9 millicuries of I-131. The misadministration occurred due to the wrong patient responding when the technologist called a name. Five minutes after the administration, the Chief Technologist discovered the error. The patient was informed of the error, and the patient's stomach was pumped, retrieving 3 millicuries of the material. The patient was then given a thyroid blocking (Lugol's) solution to minimize thyroid uptake of the radioactive iodine. The expectation by the nuclear medicine physician is that less than 2 percent of the material will be retained in the thyroid. No adverse medical effects are expected. The referring physician has been notified and a written report will be prepared pursuant to 10 CFR 35.33. The technologist has been suspended from administering radiopharmaceuticals, and a patient-signature procedure is being instituted to prevent similar occurrences. The licensee and Region V are continuing to follow this matter closely.

Region V was informed of the details of this event in telephone conversations on November 30, 1989 and on December 4, 1989 (PST). The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, and is current as of 3:00 PM (PST), December 4, 1989.

CONTACT: Beth Riedlinger - FTS 463-3765

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