

Date: March 25, 1981

## PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-81-37

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 IE staff on this date.

Facility: Boston City Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts 02118  
(DN 30-1807)

Subject: MISADMINISTRATION OF RADIOIODINE



On March 23, 1981, between 11 a.m. and noon, a 69-year old woman outpatient received an 8 mCi iodine-131 therapy when she was mistaken for another patient. The fact that neither patient spoke English contributed to the misadministration. The error was discovered at noon on March 24, 1981 when the correct patient arrived to receive her dose. The attending physician of the patient who received the misadministration has been notified by the hospital.

Region I received notification of the occurrence by telephone from the licensee's radiation safety officer on March 24, 1981 at 3:45 p.m.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been notified. No media interest is expected. A press release is not planned by the licensee or the NRC at this time.

This Preliminary Notification is issued for information only. Region I will conduct an investigation into the circumstances of this misadministration.

Contact: F. Costello                      J. Kinneman                      J. Joyner  
488-1353                                      488-1206                                      488-1224

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

Region I Form 83  
(Rev. March 1981)

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Karl S. Oll