

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



ELLIS FISCHEL STATE CANCER HOSPITAL

OPERATED BY THE DIVISION OF HEALTH OF MISSOURI

115 BUSINESS LOOP 70 WEST  
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI 65201

11 May 1981

314-875-2100

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATT: Mr. James G. Keppler, Director  
Region III  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

License No. 24-00481-04

Gentlemen:

Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital herewith submits its response to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission charge of violation. In so doing, Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital does not admit that it has committed any violation or that it discriminated against Dr. Clifford Richter. On the contrary, five doctors and two previous Hospital administrators testified under oath that the basic reason for changing the medical staff structure was to provide better treatment and continuity of treatment for patients of Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital. Thus, regardless of the administrative hearing judge's decision as affirmed by the Federal Court, Ellis Fischel and its medical staff continue to maintain their innocence in this matter. However, in keeping with the changes made by the medical staff in treatment procedures, Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital has implemented the following improvements relative to the monitoring of radioactive materials:

Presently, a monthly inventory of all licensed radioactive material in radiation therapy is conducted. This inventory is reviewed by the Hospital Management Assistant to assure that all sources have been accounted for. Periodic management audits are conducted by verification with the patient's medical record. Radioactive sources used in implants are counted before and after implantation. The Hospital Management Assistant forwards a report to the Administrator. All implant patients and their rooms are monitored with a G.M. survey meter after the radioactive material is removed to assure that all of the sources are accounted for.

Our personnel monitoring is done by film and ring badges which are processed by Landauer monthly. The film badge reports are recorded and reviewed monthly by the Radiation Safety Officer and a summary is sent to the Administrator. Any overexposures greater than Levels I and II as listed in our ALARA program are investigated and reported to the Radiation Safety Committee.

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To prevent accidental exposure of the film badges while employees are not on duty, a metal film badge box has been placed in each department so that the badges can be locked up and stored when not being used.

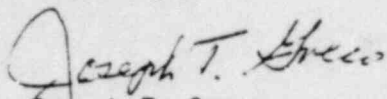
Our Nuclear Medicine Department has implemented a system of color coding syringes and patients to prevent misadministrations of radiopharmaceuticals.

To assure that all leak tests are done in a timely manner, the Radiation Safety Officer has compiled a summary sheet listing all the previous wipe tests of all radioactive materials. This summary is routinely checked to see that our leak tests are done at least once every six months.

As you can see, we have implemented a number of management controls to ensure our compliance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations and we feel that we have tight control of all Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensed material in our possession.

Dr. Clifford Richter returned to active employment at Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital on 20 April 1981.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph T. Greco  
Administrator

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cc: Dr. Mohammad N. Akhter  
Mr. Larry Marshall