

January 4, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-90-01

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

FACILITY: Florida Hospital  
(Agreement State Licensee)  
Orlando, Florida

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

SUBJECT: MISSING Cs-137 SOURCE

Florida, an Agreement State, advised Region II on January 3, 1990, that a source containing 22 millicuries Cs-137 was determined to be missing from the Florida Hospital, Orlando, FL.

The source was part of a Brachytherapy device, 3M, 6500 Series (formerly Model 6D6C-CA), Serial No. 2394, which was last used on a patient on December 30, 1989. The source was determined to be missing on January 2, 1990.

The State dispatched two inspectors to conduct an investigation which included a search and survey of the patient and hospital facilities. To date, the source has not been located.

The hospital physicist speculates that the missing source was probably flushed down the toilet, but this has not been ascertained. Also, the hospital incinerator has been shut down and will be surveyed after it is sufficiently cool, which is expected to be on January 5, 1990.

The State is continuing its investigation of this matter and will keep Region II informed.

This information is current as of 11:15 a.m. (EST) on January 4, 1990.

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IE - 34  
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5520: 1/4/90 @ 2:40 p.m. (EST) TO REGIONS AND HQ

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