

October 26, 1993

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-V-93-018

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 V staff on this date.

Facility

Queen's Medical Center
1301 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Dockets: 03014522

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UNINTENTIONAL EXPOSURE OF INFANT'S THYROID

On October 25, 1993, a Region V inspector discovered during a routine radiation safety inspection at the Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, that a 9 month old nursing infant had received 25 rads to its thyroid as a result of an iodine 131 administration to its mother on December 2, 1991.

The mother was administered 15 microcuries of iodine 131 for a diagnostic scan. Although the patient noted on a hospital form that she was breastfeeding, the technologist failed to notice the notation on the form until the patient returned for a scan the following day. The patient was informed of the oversight by the licensee and was instructed to stop breastfeeding. The authorized user and the referring physician were also notified on December 3, 1991.

The infant's absorbed dose was calculated from information obtained during an uptake scan of the mother 6 hours after the administration.

No press release has been made.

Region V has contacted a medical consultant who will determine whether the incident has medical significance. Information relevant to this event is still being gathered by the inspector.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only and is current as of 4:15 p.m., October 26, 1993.

Contact: Beth Prange
(510)975-0250

Jim Montgomery
(510)975-0249

080025

9311090043 931026
PDR I&E
PNO-V-93-018 PDR

JE34
0/1