

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 III staff on this date. *wtd* *CFP*

Facility: Syncor Corp.  
Akron, Ohio  
34-19008-01 (MD)

Licensee Emergency Classification  
General Emergency \_\_\_\_\_ Site Area Emergency \_\_\_\_\_  
Alert \_\_\_\_\_ Unusual Event \_\_\_\_\_ N/A X

Subject: MISLABELING OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS

On November 23, 1990, 12 individual doses of a radiopharmaceutical containing technetium-99m were mislabeled resulting in 11 diagnostic misadministrations. The individual dose labels indicated the material was Tc99m-MDP, a bone imaging agent. In fact, the material was Tc-99m-DTPA, a kidney imaging radiopharmaceutical. The doses were distributed to 8 Akron area hospitals and 11 of them were used for diagnostic tests on patients. The error was discovered when the hospitals reported that the test results were different than those anticipated.

The licensee attributed the error to a misreading of the label on the vial containing the bulk quantity of the material.

Region III (Chicago) will review the circumstances of the error, determine causal factors, and evaluate corrective actions during a special inspection of the licensee.

The State of Ohio will be notified. The information in this Preliminary Notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Region III was notified of this incident by the licensee at 2:30 p.m. on November 23, 1990. This information is current as of 10 a.m., November 26, 1990.

*wbs*  
CONTACT: W. Schultz  
388-5526

*JG*  
J. Grobe  
388-5612

DISTRIBUTION:

HEADQUARTERS OFFICES		REGIONS	MAIL TO:
Chairman Carr	NMSS	Region I	DCS (Orig)
Comm. Rogers	GPA:SP	Region II	DOT (Trans.
Comm. Curtiss	GPA:PA	Region IV	Only)
Comm. Remick	GPA:CA	Region V	
EDO	*OIG		
Gen. Counsel	*ASLAP		
NRR	Research	FAX TO:	
AEOD	IRM	INPO _____ NSAC _____ LIC _____	
Enforcement	ACRS	NRC OPS CTR 1:48	
		PDR (8/634-3343) 1:50	

\*Denotes a Displaywriter/PC not an IBM 5520 Terminal.

Rev. 10/23/90

*IE 34*  
*0/1*