

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-90-102A

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:  
Medical Center of Central  
Massachusetts/Memorial  
(Worcester Memorial Hospital)  
119 Belmont Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01605  
License No. 20-02452-03

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

Subject: POSSIBLE FIRE IN A TELETHERAPY MACHINE--UPDATE

As a follow up to a reported possible fire in a teletherapy machine, Region I called the licensee on November 30, 1990, at approximately 10:00 a.m. to obtain updated information.

A service representative from Theratronics arrived at the licensee's facility at approximately 4:30 p.m. on November 29, 1990. He found what appeared to be a burnt piece of a rubber grommet on the light field indicator lamp. The licensee stated it appeared that the grommet had been dislodged and fell inside the machine collimators as a result of repair work performed on November 28, 1990. The repair work had been performed on the optical distance indicator which was flickering due to a loose plug. The licensee believes that the grommet dislodged from the collimators and fell onto the light field indicator lamp during the last patient treatment performed on November 29, 1990 when the patient was treated posteriorly (i.e., gantry angle at 180°).

The licensee will report the incident to the Medical Device Reporting System at FDA and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Region considers this issue closed and intends no further involvement. This information is current as of 10:30 a.m. on November 30, 1990.

CONTACT: Jean Gresick-Schugsta M. Shanbaky  
(FTS) 346-5382 (FTS) 346-5209

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Licensee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Reactor Licensees)

Region I Form 83  
(Rev. April 1988)