

May 17, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-027

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

Cedars Medical Center
Miami, Florida
License No: FL-2420-1

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: BRACHYTHERAPY MISADMINISTRATION

Florida, an Agreement State, notified Region II of a medical misadministration involving a brachytherapy source and one patient.

The Licensee's physicist reported the event to the State of Florida on May 17, 1994. The event reportedly occurred when an incorrect dose conversion factor was used for planning the treatment. The patient was treated with three cesium-137 seeds during a gynecological implant procedure, during the period of May 4 through 8, 1994. Initial information received from the physicist indicated that the patient received approximately 9,000 rads to the treatment area, which was about three times the intended dose.

The Florida Office of Radiation Control has dispatched an inspector to the site to conduct an investigation of the details and circumstances of this event. As of the initial notification to the State, the physician(s) were not at the Hospital, and the patient had not been notified.

Media interest is not expected at this time.

This information is current as of 05:45 p.m., May 17, 1994.

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