

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Docketing and Service Branch
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET NUMBER
PETITION FOR RULEMAKING 35-12
(59FR61831)

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

RE Docket No. PRM-35-12

Dear Secretary,

I have read the Tri-Med Specialties, Inc. Filing of Petition for Rulemaking and am writing to comment on this petition. I am a lay person interested in new, cost-effective diagnostic tests which will bring down the cost of health care in the United States of America. I am aware that useful devices such as smoke detectors contain safe amounts of radioactivity and are already available for general use.

The abundant research done establishing the connection between *H. pylori* and the development of gastritis, ulcers and now gastric cancer, has brought the possibility of cure to millions of patients. Unfortunately, most methods of detecting *H. pylori* are invasive and expensive. The ¹⁴C Urea Breath Test is an accurate, non-invasive method of detecting *H. pylori*. By allowing this test to be distributed to physicians under an exempt status, it will be more economical and more readily available to patients, especially in rural areas. These factors would greatly enhance the physicians ability to diagnose and treat *H. pylori* in an effective manner, thus decreasing the ulcer and gastric cancer rates in this country.

The minimal radiation exposure to patients and lack of adverse events in the clinical trials make this a very safe test.

I would strongly encourage you to accept this petition for rulemaking and allow the test to be distributed under general licensing and/or exempt status.

Sincerely,

H.A. Whitford

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