

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-85-36

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: Hospital of Saint Raphael
New Haven, Connecticut
(L/N 06-00200-03)

30-1238

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

Subject: THERAPEUTIC DOSE OF IODINE-131 ADMINISTERED IN ERROR

On December 4, 1984, the licensee reported that on August 7, 1984 a patient received 10 millicuries of iodine-131 rather than the prescribed 400 microcurie dose of iodine-123. Iodine-123 is produced in an accerator and is, therefore, not regulated by the Commission. It is used to assess thyroid function. Iodine-131 is regulated by the Commission and a 10 millicurie dose is used to therapeutically alter thyroid function. The intended dose of iodine 123 would have resulted in a dose to the thyroid of between 14 and 23 rads. The actual dose of iodine-131 resulted in a dose between 8000 and 13000 rads. The report indicates that the patient has received appropriate medical care.

A special inspection will be conducted during the week of May 20, 1985 to review this misadministration. Region I plans to have the cased reviewed by an NRC medical consultant. The misadministration has not been previously reviewed in detail because the Region improperly categorized the report when it was received.

The State of Connecticut has been informed.

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