

30-1209

Medical Center

Seventh Street and Indian
School Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012



**Veterans
Administration**

May 23, 1986

RECEIVED
MAY 28 PM 12 56
In Reply Refer To: 644/114
REGION V

Mr. R. A. Scarano, Director
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Dear Mr. Scarano:

This letter is in reply to your letter dated April 28, 1986 which provides a report of the inspection conducted by Mr. Skov of your office on March 3-4, and March 13-14, 1986. Each of the areas of noncompliance are addressed in the order they are presented in your letter.

- A. In order to prevent the inadvertent disposal of gauze or other dressings from diagnostic nuclear medicine patients in the ordinary trash, the waste paper can has been removed from the hot lab. All trash from the hot lab will be placed in a properly marked radioactive waste receptacle and monitored before disposal using our standard monitoring procedures.
- B. To prevent unauthorized access to the hot lab an automatic door closure device has been installed on the door to the lab. This door will be shut and locked any time the nuclear medicine technologists are not in the clinic. It should be noted that the hot lab opens to the prep area which in turn opens to the scanning room which finally opens to the unrestricted hallways of the hospital (see attached plan). Given the design of the clinic, we feel that the unauthorized removal of radioactive material from the hot lab is a very unlikely occurrence.
- C. All diagnostic and therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals are currently prepared and hand delivered by Nuclear Pharmacy (Syncor Corp.), which operates a radiopharmacy on 7th Street several blocks south of the hospital. All of our isotopes are hand delivered and do not suffer the abuses typically associated with delivery by a common carrier. However, we will monitor and prepare a receiving report for all therapeutic quantities of radioactive materials we receive (see enclosed form).

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REQ5 LIC30
02-10072-01 PDR

2.

Mr. R. A. Scarano, Director, Div. of Radiation Safety and Safeguards

D. 1. A request for a license amendment pertaining to our remodeled clinic was prepared and submitted for your review on March 21, 1986. We apologize for the delay in the preparation of this document.

2. The dose calibrator linearity test for the third quarter of 1985 was performed in August, 1985 and the results of the test indicated that the dose calibrator was within five percent of the predicted results. Unfortunately the data sheet for this test was lost during our move.

3. a. All of the radiation surveys listed in this section were performed but the results were not recorded.

b. A radiation survey of Room 3221 was performed prior to the release of the room for the next patient, however the results of the survey were not recorded.

c. A radiation survey of exposure rates in adjoining rooms was not made for the iodine-131 therapies performed on August 12 and September 10, 1985. These surveys will be performed on all future therapies or the adjoining rooms will be maintained empty.

d. A radiation survey of Room 2413 was performed prior to the release of the area for unrestricted use, however the results of the survey were not immediately recorded. The results of this survey are attached.

In addition to the above actions, the nuclear medicine personnel have been instructed to place additional emphasis on their radiation safety duties and to improve the recordkeeping for their surveys and performance tests. Also, we have instructed the Safety Specialist, the Administration's representative on the Radiation Safety Committee, to perform quarterly audits of the nuclear medicine radiation safety program using a checklist provided by our consulting health physicist. Results of these audits will be presented to the Radiation Safety Committee.

We feel that these changes in our radiation safety program should reduce or eliminate the findings of noncompliance in your future inspections.

Page 3

Mr. R. A. Scarano, Director, Div. of Radiation Safety and Safeguards

Please contact me or our Radiation Safety Officer, Dr. LeGrand at
FTS 764-7663, if you have any questions concerning these changes.

Sincerely yours,

Jimmie L. Clay
RAY L. BOURNE
for Medical Center Director

Enclosures:

Link Drawing for Clinic

Receiving Report Form

Close-out Survey Results

May 23, 1986

644/114

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VA Medical Center
7th St. & Indian School Rd.
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

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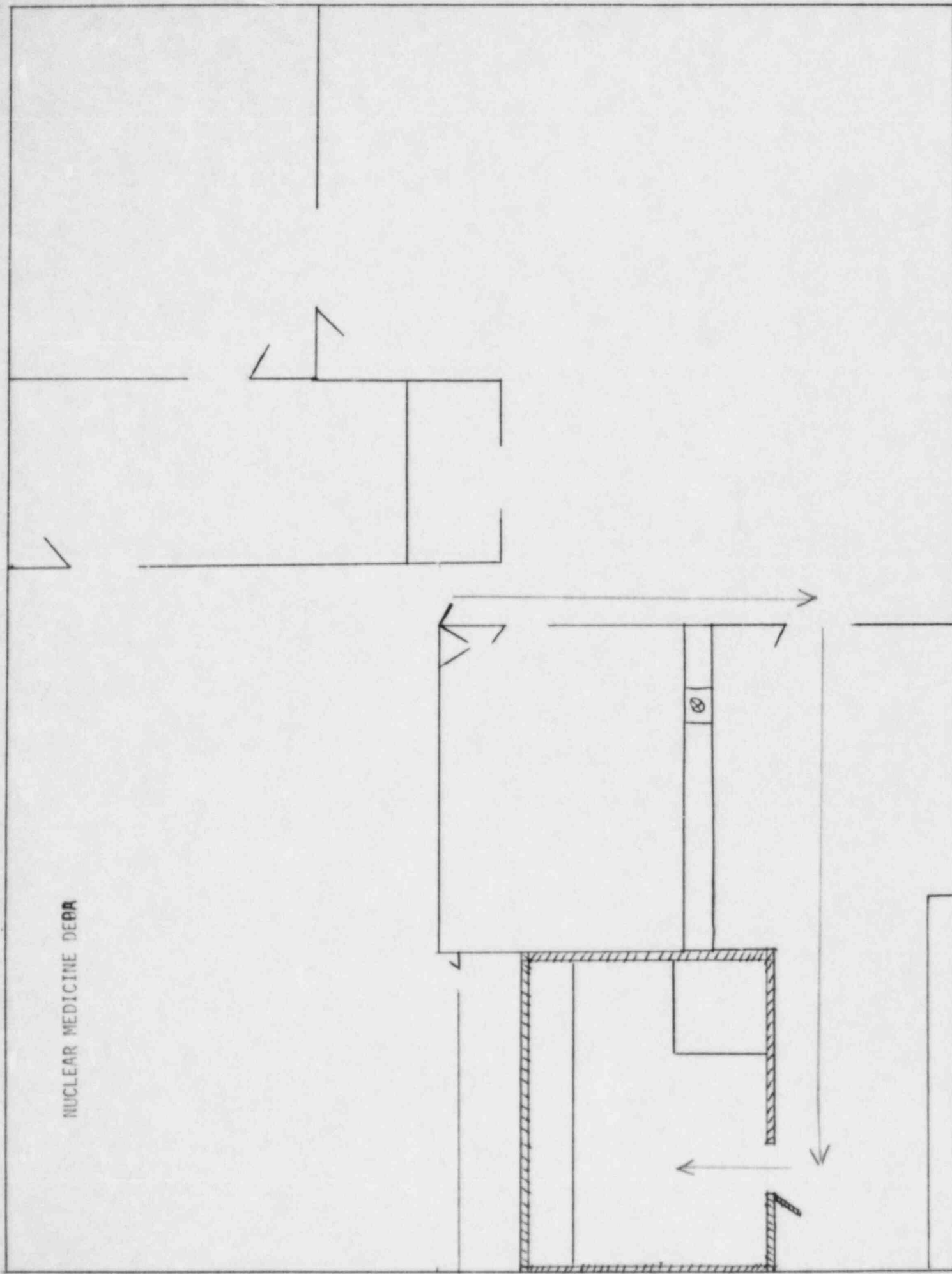
Sincerely yours,

RAY L. BOURNE
Medical Center Director

Enclosures:
Link Drawing for Clinic
Receiving Report Form
Close-out Survey Results



NUCLEAR MEDICINE DEPT



RECEIVING REPORT - RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Manufacturer_____ Isotope_____ Activity_____

P.O. Number_____ Date_____ Surveyor_____

Survey or Test	Yes	No	Comments
Condition of package OK	()	()	_____
Radiation levels agree w/label	()	()	_____
Contents & packing slip agree	()	()	_____
Contamination of packing materials	()	()	Wipe test_____
Contamination of source	()	()	Wipe test_____

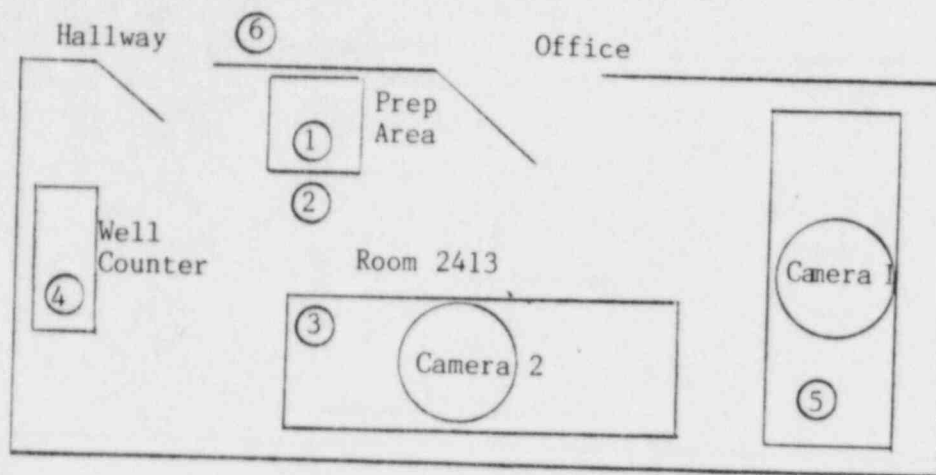
If no removable contamination is found, obliterate labels and dispose of box and packing materials in ordinary trash.

Manufacturer_____ Isotope_____ Activity_____

P.O. Number_____ Date_____ Surveyor_____

Survey or Test	Yes	No	Comments
Condition of Package OK	()	()	_____
Radiation levels agree w/label	()	()	_____
Contents & packing slip agree	()	()	_____
Contamination of packing materials	()	()	Wipe test_____
Contamination of source	()	()	Wipe test_____

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INSTRUMENT: Ludlum Model 3 w/ 44-9 Pancake Probe

Closeout Survey - All equipment moved to new clinic area.

[illegible]