

West  
Shore  
Hospital

1465 EAST PARKDALE AVENUE MANISTEE, MICHIGAN 49660 (616) 723-3501

June 26, 1978

Samuel L. Pettijohn  
Regional Licensing Section  
Radioisotopes Licensing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle & Material Safety  
The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Re: Our License No. 21-16277-01  
Your Control No. ~~92480~~ 93135

Dear Mr. Pettijohn:

The following are answers to the questions you asked in your letter to us of March 29, 1978.

1. The sealed sources will be stored in a locked area which will have access only by authorized personnel. The sources shall be placed behind 5 centimeters of lead and covered over with a like thickness. This room is approximately 6' off a public corridor.
2. Special safety precautions while handling sealed sources:
  - 1) Personnel handling the sources are advised to use speed and long-handled instrument.
  - 2) Personnel loading the sealed sources shall position themselves behind the L shaped lead loading block.
  - 3) A loss of any sealed sources shall be immediately reported to the radiation safety officer and radiotherapist.
  - 4) Sources are to be transported from the storage site to the place of use in a shielded carrier and cart. Care is to be taken so that the cart will not be accidentally overturned.
3. Special instructions for nursing care of patients who are treated with sealed sources (brachytherapy)
  - I. General
    - a. Exposure to ionizing radiation is generally regarded as undesirable at all levels although no harmful effects is known to follow very low level exposures.
    - b. Experience has shown that routine care of patients who have received radioactive materials will not expose nursing personnel to any significant amount of radiation. However, because of governmental regulations, hospital policy and proper management of radioactive material, these guides should be followed.

8610070449 860806  
REQ3 LIC30  
21-16277-01 PDR



JUN 29 1978

HEALTH - A COMMUNITY PROJECT

## II. Brachytherapy

Radioactive sources, such as Radium and Radon, sealed in needles, tubes or "seeds", will not have traces of radioactivity, i.e. will not contaminate any material in contact with them. Therefore, linens, bandages, instruments etc., can be handled in the normal manner. However, the following precautions are recommended.

- a. Monitoring badges should be worn by all nurses attending the patient.
  - b. The patient should be restricted to bed rest, unless order is given otherwise.
  - c. Nursing care should be preformed in a normal and routine manner, but personnel should not remain in the room any longer than is necessary.
  - d. Surgical bandages and dressing are to be changed only by attending physicians, radiotherapist or person trained in radiation safety.
  - e. Pregnant nurses shall not be assigned to patients receiving these sources.
  - f. Visitors, if not otherwise stated, are normally limited to thirty minutes visit per day, and should remain at least six feet away from the patient during this period. Visitors under 18 years of age are not permitted.
  - g. Linen, bed pans and urinals should be checked for radioactive sources before disposal. Should needles, tubes or "seeds" become dislodged, they should be handled as follows:
    1. Pick up source with forceps, place in lead container provided or other container (cup, basin, glass, vial, etc.) and leave it in a corner of patient's room.
    2. Do not attempt to replace it in patient.
    3. Notify the radiotherapist in charge immediately.
- NOTE: a. Sources should not be touched with fingers.  
b. Hemostats should not be used since they may crush or rupture the source.
- h. Private duty nurses should contact the radiation safety officer or Radiotherapist for specific instructions if exclusive attendance is required.

### EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Radiotherapist in charge: M. K.S. Tay, M.D. 774-6218 - 774-6217  
After hours - - 676-9834

Radiation Safety Officer: L.M. Jackowski, D.O. 723-3501  
After hours - - - 723-4405

Director or Radiology: Manuel Aquino, M.D. 723-3501 - 723-9082  
After hours - 723-5772

4. Methods for determining the radiation dose to the extremities of personnel handling sealed sources.

TLD finger badges supplied by ICN Pharmaceuticals, Inc. will be provided to all personnel for monitoring of radiation dose to the extremities.

6. Method for maintaining source accountability

- 1) All sources must be signed-in and signed-out in a log book when they are removed from or stored in the safe.
- 2) If there is no brachytherapy treatment in a month, the technologist will inspect and account for all sources and record the finding in the log book.
- 3) The log book shows
  - Date the sealed sources are received or inspected.
  - Whom the sources are received from.
  - The radionuclide, number of sealed sources and the activity.
  - Signature of the one who receives.
  - Date and time the sources are sent out from storage.
  - Destination of the sources sent.
  - Signature of the one who receives.
  - Remarks regarding the use, final disposition, etc.
- 4) I-125 seeds should be held in a shielded container (at least 5 mm lead equivalent to provide adequate protection) and the container should be stored in a locked safe.
- 5) When disposal is indicated, the I-125 seeds should be transferred only to an authorized radioactive waste disposal agency. I-125 seeds should never be disposed of in normal waste.

8. The responsible user

Michael Kie-Seng Tay, M.D.

Qualification:

Licensed M.D. in the State of Michigan

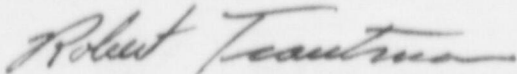
Certified Therapeutic Radiologist by American Board of Radiology

Experiences in the practice of Therapeutic Radiology:

Formal Residency Training: 1970-1973 at Downstate Medical Center - State University Hospital and Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Full time Radiotherapist: 1973-present at St. Mary's Hospital, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Sincerely yours,



Robert Trautman  
Administrator

RT:pd