



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

June 9, 1987

CHAIRMAN

Dr. C. Barrie Cook
Chairman, Radiation Safety Committee
The Fairfax Hospital
3300 Gallows Road
Falls Church, VA 22046

Dear Dr. Cook:

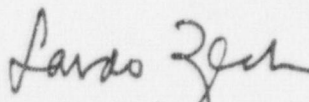
I appreciate the opportunity to visit at the Fairfax Hospital and the opportunity to review your program for the medical use of byproduct material. The tours of the radiation oncology, nuclear medicine, and radiation safety facilities were very informative.

While reviewing the personal radiation dosimetry records of the medical staff, I noted that some individuals, particularly the cardiology staff, had radiation exposures that were consistently the highest radiation exposures being received while other cardiologist apparently performing similar procedures were recording no exposures. Because of this inconsistency as well as the rather high levels of radiation exposure of some, I have sent the enclosed letter to Dr. Hallal, Chairman of the Department of Cardiology, highlighting the matter for his attention. Although the radiation exposures noted were within existing regulatory levels, it is suggested that perhaps the exposures may have been more than necessary.

I believe it would be beneficial to all members of the medical staff to remind them of the need for proper protective measures and use of personal dosimeters while using radiation equipment in their work. Additionally, it may be necessary to provide training or a refresher course to focus on the procedures for self-protection.

Please express my personal thanks to Dr. Tonneson, Dr. Deye, Mr. Hixson, Ms. Bruno and Mr. Brindley for their hospitality.

Sincerely,


Lando W. Zech, Jr.

Enclosure: Copy of letter to Dr. Hallal