

Michael: I have reviewed the proposed revisions to DRG 8.39. In summary, the inclusion of a two-tiered approach to patient release calculations will be very helpful to clinical physicists (as well as patients), in that the Tier-2 provides for incorporation of a number of exposure modifying factors (biokinetic, occupancy, geometric, and attenuation/self-shielding) which will serve to, ultimately, reduce the burden on patients with regard to home precautions (including isolation from vulnerable populations and social distancing). The technical bases for these modifying factors are well-explained and 'real world' worked examples provided in Appendices B and C.\*

What I did not see was any additional guidance regarding household radioactive waste management---something that can be very challenging for patients once they are released to their homes. Regional regulations regarding low-level radiological waste from medical procedures vary across the nation---from requiring no special management to fining households when radioactive mixed waste is detected. Possibly this guidance will be updated/expanded upon in the companion guidance document (NUREG 1556 Vol 9).

Please let me know if you need comments with more specificity.

Thanks--Cynthia