



February 13, 2012

Dr. Leon S. Malmud
Chair, NRC Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes
Dean Emeritus, Temple University School of Med
Temple University Health System
3401 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140

Dear Dr. Malmud,

The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) would like to thank the NRC Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes (ACMUI) for reconsidering the Permanent Implant Brachytherapy Subcommittee's report on the definition of medical event on February 7, 2012.

ASTRO is the largest radiation oncology society in the world, with more than 10,000 members who specialize in treating patients with radiation therapies. As the leading organization in radiation oncology, biology and physics, the Society is dedicated to improving patient care through education, clinical practice, advancement of science and advocacy.

Overall, we believe that the new definition is an improvement and better reflects ASTRO's concerns that medical events should be clearly defined, and be both practical and meaningful. Anything less would deter clinicians and threaten continued patient access to brachytherapy.

We continue to applaud the ACMUI, as well as the NRC commissioners and staff, for providing ample opportunity for stakeholders, including ASTRO, to fully comment and participate in the process of redefining medical events. We would like to continue to work with both the ACMUI and the NRC to ensure that a definition that is both clinically appropriate and straightforward to regulate if adopted.

We look forward to continuing to work with the ACMUI and NRC on the definition of medical event. Please contact Cindy Tomlinson, Manager of Regulatory Affairs at cindy@astro.org or 703.839.7366 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laura I. Thevenot
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Honorable Gregory Jaczko, NRC
Bruce Thomadsen, PhD, Vice-Chairman, ACMUI
Jim Welsh, MD, Chair, ACMUI Permanent Implant Brachytherapy Subcommittee
Michael Fuller, Team Leader, Medical Radiation Safety Team, NRC
Ashley Cockerham, Health Physicist, NRC

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