



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER  
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From: Commanding Officer, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health  
Center  
To: Distribution  
Subj: NAVAL RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS PERMIT (NRMP) INFORMATION  
NOTICE 2012-01: NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST TRAINEE  
SUPERVISION

1. Since the relocation of Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) to Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio TX, Nuclear Medicine Technician (NMT) Phase II students are temporarily assigned to an offsite operational nuclear medicine clinic for on the job training. All NMT students are currently temporarily assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS), Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) or Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). However this notice applies to all clinics performing on the job training for individuals.

2. A recent event involving radioactive contamination requires each clinic to reinforce radiation safety training for the NMT staff. Specifically, the supervising individual must wear the same Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) that is required for the individual under instruction.

3. One recent event included a staff NMT observing a student under instruction. During the training, the student used an incorrect injection technique, which caused the staff member to actively participate. The staff member was not wearing proper PPE (i.e., gloves) and consequently became contaminated.

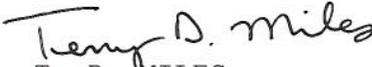
4. Another event, at a different facility, involved a student discharging an excess amount of radioactivity from a syringe to obtain the proper prescribed dose. Some of the released radioactive material dropped on the absorbent (chux pad) lay down area. The staff NMT was not wearing required PPE, and assisted the student in housekeeping efforts after the dose preparation. The staff member's lack of gloves directly resulted in contamination to both hands and the spread of contamination to other areas of the hot lab. This subsequently resulted in skin contamination of the student.

5. Radiation Safety Officer's shall ensure that their Radiation Safety Committee and applicable NRMP Radiation Workers (such as NMT, radiopharmacist, and authorized users) are briefed on this notification. Particular importance should be stressed on the fact that instructors and/or supervisors must always be fully prepared to perform the same task as the trainee.

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6. Additionally, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) highly recommends that all Radiation Safety Officer's (RSO) review their local standard operating procedures (SOPs') to ensure that these provisions are covered in the local implementation.

7. For additional information, please contact LT Terry D. Miles, Radiation Health Team Leader at DSN 377-0766 or (757) 953-0766, facsimile (757) 953-0670 or by e-mail at terry.miles@med.navy.mil.

  
T. D. MILES  
By Direction

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