



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CENTER
2510 WALMER AVENUE
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23513-2617

6470
Ser 31/ **5849**
OCT 27 1992

From: Commanding Officer, Navy Environmental Health Center

Subj: NAVY RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL PERMIT PROGRAM INFORMATION NOTICE 92-4

1. This notice is being issued to reaffirm the requirement that radioactive material be controlled at all times as specified by your Navy Radioactive Material Permit (NRMP) and Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 20.207.

2. Recently, at a Naval Hospital, a junior Radiation Health Technician received a package containing a radiopharmaceutical for use by the Nuclear Medicine Department. After properly conducting a receipt survey, the technician delivered the package to the Nuclear Pharmacy. When the technician found no one in the pharmacy, he left the package in the passageway just outside the pharmacy. The package had Department of Transportation Yellow II radioactive material placards on two sides; however, it was not promptly removed from the passageway and placed in proper storage. That evening the housekeeping staff disposed of the package as ordinary trash, assuming it was empty.

3. During an investigation into this loss of radioactive material the following deficiencies were identified:

a. The junior Radiation Health Technician was unaware of the Command's standard operating procedures for receipt of radioactive material.

b. The junior Radiation Health Technician was not formally trained in the proper procedures to ensure control of radioactive material.

c. Senior radiation safety staff, including the Radiation Safety Officer, were unaware that the junior Radiation Health Technician was using improper procedures to deliver radioactive material to the nuclear medicine pharmacy.

4. Each command shall verify that procedures for receipt and storage of radioactive material are adequate to prevent unauthorized removal from the place of storage. The verification shall include receipt procedures for radioactive material after normal working hours, such as from a commercial nuclear pharmacy. Each command shall also verify that all personnel who receive and/or handle radioactive material, including duty section personnel, are adequately trained in procedures to prevent unauthorized removal of radioactive material.

5. The verifications required by paragraph four shall be documented in your next Radiation Safety Committee minutes and be available for review during your next NRMP inspection.

6. Any loss of radioactive material shall be reported by phone to the Navy Environmental Health Center, DSN: 564-4657 or (804) 444-4657, Ext. 413, immediately upon determination of the loss.

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7. Point of contact on this subject is LCDR G. I. Snyder, MSC, USN, Head, Radiation Health Department, DSN: 564-4657 or (804) 444-4657, Ext. 413.


J. M. LAMDIN
Acting

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