

November 30, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-01-051

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV staff on this date.

Facility

Romagosa Oncology
New Iberia, LA
Louisiana Agreement State Licensee

License No.LA-0978-L01

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION

DESCRIPTION: On November 29, 2001, the NRC Operations Center was notified by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Radiation Surveillance Section (LDEQ) that a therapeutic medical misadministration had occurred at Romagosa Oncology located in New Iberia, Louisiana.

The licensee notified LDEQ on November 28, 2001, of a medical misadministration to a patient being treated with 244.2 gigabequerel (6.6 curies) of iridium-192 in a Nucletron microSelectron-HDR Classic remote afterloader device. The licensee's Radiation Oncologist had prescribed a total dose of 2640 centigray to be delivered over 6 fractions of 440 centigray each. The patient received a dose of 269 centigray in fraction 5 of the treatment which was approximately 40% lower than the intended dose. The licensee informed LDEQ that the Oncologist planned to write another written directive to deliver the full intended dose. The licensee stated that the error was due to a miscalculation.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence from NRC Operations Center. Region IV has informed OEDO, NMSS, OSTP, and the Region's SLO and PAO.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 11:00 a.m. on November 30, 2001.

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