

September 15, 2005

Mr. John Madera
Section Chief
Nuclear Materials License Branch
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Re: *Expansion of retrospective case review NRC License #13-00133-02*

Dear Mr. Madera,

This correspondence is being sent to your attention to confirm that *St. Vincent Hospital* is conducting an expanded retrospective review of High Dose Rate brachytherapy administrations based on the discovery of five past medical events which were reported in summary to the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) Region III Office on Tuesday, September 6, 2005 and, as subsequently directed, to the USNRC Operations Center on Wednesday, September 7, 2005.

Based on the interactions between our respective offices, *St. Vincent Hospital* has initiated an expanded review to include all HDR administrations for the period of March, 2002 through November, 2004 (minus the 160 administrations already reviewed and reported). This time frame and case selection will provide a representative sample of the work completed by all physicists who have performed HDR brachytherapy.

With regards to the expanded review, we have identified and initiated examination of seventy-three (73) treatment administrations delivered to twenty-nine (29) patients. We will report the results of this review to your office in aggregate on or before Friday, October 7, 2005.

When finished, in combination with the previous retrospective review and our current process for review of all HDR brachytherapy administrations, *St. Vincent Hospital* will have examined five hundred eighteen (518) of the nine hundred sixty seven (967), or fifty-four percent (54%), of the administrations provided since the HDR unit was purchased by *St. Vincent Hospital* in November, 1998.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 317/338-6607.

Sincerely,

Jeff Heffelfinger, MSA, CHE
Executive Director, Oncology
St. Vincent Hospital

cc: Mike Wiernam, M.D., Senior Vice-President, Chief Medical Officer
Jean M. Meyer, R.N., MSN, Senior Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer
Edward E. Wroblewski, M.A., DABSNM, Radiation Safety Officer
Ben Wen Ni, Ph.D., Chief Radiation Therapy Physicist

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Susan M. Stephenson, R.N., Risk Management
NRC correspondence file