

From: [Jimenez, Sandra M](#)
To: [Howe, Donna-Beth](#)
Subject: RE: Opportunity to review and comment on an NRC information collection: NRC Request for Information Concerning Patient Release Practices.
Date: Monday, May 04, 2015 2:44:32 PM

Dr. Howe,

I wasn't sure on the format that you wanted our response for the questions. Please let me know if something other than our statement below is needed.

The project involves collection of information by the NRC about the release criteria, guidelines, and instructions to patients following I-131 therapy for a thyroid disease. The intention is to create a clear unified parameters and instructions for licensees and patients regarding radiation safety within the practice of I-131 thyroid therapy.

I believe that it is appropriate to have a consistent guide as a reference, especially coming from the NRC, for both licensees and patients. Coming from different medical centers, I agree that there are differences, albeit minor, in guidelines that possibly can create patient confusion. Different members of the treatment team (for example, nuclear medicine physicians, endocrinologists, radiation safety officers) came from different training programs with their own "culture" of handling I-131. Although the differences are minor, but combined with patient's knowledge of I-131 from web sites, forums, and chat rooms, the resulting process can be disorderly.

The proposed generalized method of information collection is, in my opinion, justified. The details of data collection can be properly planned.

Thanks,

Sandra M. Jimenez

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From: Howe, Donna-Beth [mailto:Donna-Beth.Howe@nrc.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 4:47 PM

To: Jimenez, Sandra M

Subject: Opportunity to review and comment on an NRC information collection: NRC Request for Information Concerning Patient Release Practices.

Ms Jimenez,

Thank you agreeing to have M.D. Anderson volunteer to evaluate NRC's burden estimate for a future request for public input on specific patient release topics? We believe medical facilities with interest in patient release topics makes the M.D. Anderson an ideal group to include in our sampling of 9 individuals.

Background

On Monday March 3, 2015, the Federal Register published a notice of NRC's request for an OMB Clearance that provides NRC's burden estimate for a future public input request on patient release issues. As part of the OMB process, OMB has asked NRC to go out to 9 individuals (which also includes groups and licensees) to see their view of the burden estimates NRC is using in the OMB request. Because the eventual request will be asking for public comment from patients, patient advocacy groups, physicians, professional groups and licensees, NRC is interested in as wide a distribution from these groups as possible in selecting the 9 individuals.

Instructions

In hopes that your organization will agree to volunteer, I have attached documents described below. Because this is only a request to evaluate NRC's burden estimate, NRC is not looking for answers to patient release questions or responses to the specific topics. Further, when we receive the OMB clearance and are able to ask the public for information, NRC will be asking people to provide their experience and their perspective. Therefore, the expectation is that the respondents will only respond to the topics that they are comfortable with and will be gathering information that they already possess and sending it in to NRC. NRC will not be asking any individual or group to research the topics and provide results of that research. The burden base is based on each response being a different respondent, although, we think some respondents will respond to more than one topic. This assumption may need to be adjusted based on the results from the public comments and the solicited responses from the 9 individuals.

The 3 attached documents are:

1. A cover note providing an overview of the documents you will be reviewing, the questions you will be answering, and how to submit your responses.
2. The March 3, 2015 Federal Register Notice outlining NRC's request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval to seek public input on patient release topics.
3. The supporting statement providing additional information on NRC's request and burden estimates.

Large Agreement State medical center representative, NRC and OMB are particularly interested in your evaluation on the reasonableness of the medical and patient oriented information collection and burden estimates. If OMB approves NRC's information collection request, the information that will be requested is based on existing information and personal experiences and evaluations.

Your participation is voluntary. If you elect not to participate, please let me know.

Donna-Beth Howe, Ph.D.
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission