

DEC 10 1996

Docket No. 030-01811

License No. 20-00506-03

Robert A. Donovan
Chief Executive Officer/President
Lowell General Hospital
295 Varnum Avenue
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854-2195

SUBJECT: INSPECTION NO. 030-01811/96-001

Dear Mr. Donovan:

On October 28 and 29, 1996, Richard McKinley of this office conducted a safety inspection at the above address of activities authorized by the above listed NRC licenses. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. The findings of the inspection were discussed with Laurie Cowan, at the conclusion of the inspection. The inspector noted that two brachytherapy procedures conducted on November 21, 1994, and November 7, 1995, were not reviewed in the annual Quality Management Program (QMP) audits for 1994 and 1995, as required by 10 CFR 35.32(b). Your staff committed to immediately reviewing these two brachytherapy cases and to ensuring that all cases are reviewed during future QMP audits.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements. A Notice of Violation is enclosed and categorizes each violation by severity level in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," (Enforcement Policy), NUREG 1600. You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

Please use the enclosed self-addressed green envelope when you respond to this letter to assist us in the timely processing of your response. In accordance with Section 2.790 of NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and your reply will be placed in the Public Document Room (PDR).

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R. Donovan
Lowell General Hospital

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To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that your desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public. The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mohamed M. Shanbaky, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch 1
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No.: 030-01811
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Enclosure:
Notice of Violation

cc w/enclosure:
George B. Inglis, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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R. Donovan
Lowell General Hospital

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