

30-4626

POLAROID RADIATION PROTECTION OFFICE
PROCEDURES FOR OPENING PACKAGES CONTAINING RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

1. Each package containing radioactive material shall be opened in a radio-isotope laboratory. Packages containing powered, crystalline, or volatile radioactive material shall be opened in an approved hood.
2. Wearing protective gloves, open the outer package. Remove the packing slip and inspect it to verify that the shipment is in agreement with the nuclide(s) and quantities ordered. If special instructions for opening the isotope container are enclosed, follow the instructions.
3. Measure the dose rate emitted from the inner container with an appropriate survey meter. Check inner wrapping material for contamination.
4. Remove inner container, and as necessary, place it behind shielding to minimize body exposure.
5. Open the inner container. Inspect and monitor contents for possible leakage from primary container (i.e. loss of liquid, discoloration of absorbing material, detection of contamination, etc.)
6. Notify the Radiation Protection Office PTN 222-2827 if:
 - a) Contamination or leakage is detected.
 - b) Dose rates in excess of expected values are measured.
 - c) There is a discrepancy between the material received and that which was ordered.
 - d) There are questions about special instructions for opening the isotope container.

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