



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

September 17, 2022

Edwin M. Leidholdt, Ph.D. Director
National Health Physics Program (115 HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive
Building 101
North Little Rock, AR 72114

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 03034325/2022011(DNMS) – VA MEDICAL
CENTER, MADISON, WISCONSIN

Dear Dr. Leidholdt:

On August 22, 2022, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at the VA Medical Center, Saginaw, Michigan. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 48-01183-01. The inspector conducted an exit meeting with the management and staff at the facility at the completion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under the Permit as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, independent measurements, and observation of activities in progress. Within the scope of the inspection no violations of NRC requirements were identified; therefore, no response to this letter or the enclosed NRC Form 591M is required.

In accordance with Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>).

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection or the enclosed report, please contact Bryan Parker of my staff at 678-828-7050.

Sincerely,

Michael M.
LaFranzo

Digitally signed by Michael
M. LaFranzo
Date: 2022.09.17 14:22:49
-05'00'

Michael LaFranzo, Acting Chief
Materials Licensing Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 030-34325
License No. 03-23853-01VA
Permit No. 48-01183-01

Enclosure:
IR 03034325/2022011



Materials Inspection Report

1. Licensee/Location Inspected:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Under Secretary of Health
Washington, D.C. 20420
(location inspected: William S. Middleton Memorial
Veterans Hospital, Madison, WI)

Report Number(s) 2022011

2. NRC/Regional Office

Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, IL 60532-4352

3. Docket Number(s)

030-34325

4. License Number(s)

03-23853-01VA

5. Date(s) of Inspection

August 22, 2022

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:



1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.



2. Previous violation(s) closed.



3. During this inspection, certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements, and were assessed at Severity Level IV, in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy.

A. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy were satisfied.

(Non-cited violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s))

B. The following violation(s) is/are being cited in accordance with NRC Enforcement Policy. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.
(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Statement of Corrective Actions

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the Inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

| TITLE | PRINTED NAME | SIGNATURE AND DATE |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE | | |
| NRC INSPECTOR | Jason D. Draper, Health Physicist | Jason D. Draper Digitally signed by Jason D. Draper Date: 2022.08.25 13:15:52 -05'00' |
| BRANCH CHIEF | Michael LaFranzo, Acting Branch Chief | Michael M. LaFranzo Digitally signed by Michael M. LaFranzo Date: 2022.09.17 14:20:56 -05'00' |



Materials Inspection Record

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|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1. Licensee Name: Department of Veterans Affairs | | 2. Docket Number(s): 030-34325 | | 3. License Number(s) 03-23853-01VA | |
| 4. Report Number(s): 2022011 | | | 5. Date(s) of Inspection: August 22, 2022 | | |
| 6. Inspector(s): Jason D. Draper | | 7. Program Code(s): 03614 | | 8. Priority: 2 | 9. Inspection Guidance Used: IP 87130 |
| 10. Licensee Contact Name(s): Diane Maranda, Permit RSO | | 11. Licensee E-mail Address: diane.meranda@va.gov | | 12. Licensee Telephone Number(s): (608) 280-7014 | |
| 13. Inspection Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routine <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Routine <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Unannounced | | 14. Locations Inspected: <input type="checkbox"/> Main Office <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Office <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Job Site <input type="checkbox"/> Remote | | 15. Next Inspection Date (MM/DD/YYYY): <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Extended <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No change | |

16. Scope and Observations:

This was a routine announced inspection of activities performed under Permit No. 48-01183-01 at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital located in Madison, Wisconsin. While the permit authorized a broad scope of materials (atomic numbers 1-83, as well as specifically molybdenum-99, technetium-99m, and iodine-131) for medical diagnosis, therapy, human research, and research and development, the licensee had not performed any research activities since 2016 and, at the time of the inspection, exclusively used unit dosages of Tc-99m for cardiac studies. The licensee's nuclear medicine department was staffed with three nuclear medicine technologists who performed cardiac stress tests on approximately five patients per day, Monday through Friday. In addition to the nuclear medicine area, the licensee had two additional rooms where byproduct material had previously been used and stored when research activities were ongoing, but at the time of the inspection, byproduct material storage was limited to exempt sources, a generally-licensed liquid scintillation counter (LSC), and used LSC vials.

During the inspection, the inspector toured the nuclear medicine area and the research-related areas to ensure material was secured appropriately. The inspector also performed independent surveys to verify the adequacy of postings and ensure radiation workers and members of the public were not receiving exposures that may exceed regulatory limits. The inspector also observed the administration of one stress dosage of Tc-99m and interviewed the RSO and the nuclear medicine technologists regarding material handling, equipment checks and calibrations, survey procedures, emergency procedures, waste handling, and program oversight activities. The inspector's observations and interviews with licensee personnel indicated adequate knowledge of radiation safety, emergency procedures, and NRC regulations. The inspector reviewed a selection of records including equipment checks, package receipt records, decay-in-storage waste logs, and dosimetry records.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified as a result of this inspection.