



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

(FSME-11-047, June, Other, Medical Events)

June 1, 2011

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES  
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MEDICAL EVENTS DEFINITION AND OTHER MEDICAL ISSUES THAT ARE CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED FOR RULEMAKING (**FSME-11-047**)

**Purpose:** To provide notice that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) plans to hold two stakeholder workshops to solicit public comments on proposed revisions to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 35. The topics of discussion include issues associated with the current medical event (ME) definition for permanent implant brachytherapy and other medical issues that are currently being considered for rulemaking. NRC staff is widely publicizing the planned workshops and would appreciate the sharing of this information with interested Agreement State licensees and stakeholders.

**Background:** The Commission, in SRM-SECY-10-0062, dated August 10, 2010, directed the staff to work closely with the NRC's Advisory Committee for the Medical Uses of Isotopes and the broader medical and stakeholder community to develop event definitions that would protect the interests of patients, allow physicians the flexibility to take actions that they deem medically necessary, while continuing to enable the agency to detect failures in process, procedure, and training, as well as any misapplication of byproduct materials by authorized users. Additionally, the staff was directed to hold a series of stakeholder workshops to discuss methods for defining MEs which continue to ensure the safe use of radioactive materials while providing flexibility to account for medically necessary adjustments and the terms and thresholds for reporting MEs to the NRC and patients.

**Discussion:** The first public workshop is scheduled for June 20-21, 2011, in New York, NY, and the second workshop is scheduled for August 11-12, 2011, in Houston, TX. The specific location will be selected soon and that information will be posted to the workshop website (see below). NRC has been working with the Organization of Agreement States Board and various professional societies since March 2011 to publicize these workshops. This letter is being sent as an adjunct to those other efforts. Individuals unable to travel to the workshop location but still wishing to participate may do so through webinar participation via internet connection, and/or by phone via a conference bridge line. A meeting notice was published in the *Federal Register* (76 FR 29171) that provides additional information on the topics that will be discussed. This notice and other information on the public workshops are at <http://www.blsmmeetings.net/NRCMedicalRulemakingWorkshop/>. The final agenda for the workshops is also available on the NRC Public Meeting Schedule Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm>.

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If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me at 301-415-3340, or the individual named below.

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Sincerely,

***/RA/ by James G. Luehman for***

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