RADIATION SAFETY DURING LOW DOSE IODINE THERAPY UNDER 33 MILLICURIES

The following procedure will be used to reduce worker and public dose during low dose radiopharmaceutical therapy.

1. The patient’s room will be as far away from the nursing station and heavy traffic hallways as is consistent with good medical care. It will be a private room with private sanitary facilities and should be without carpet.

2. Prepare the room for the procedure as follows:
   a. Prepare 1 yellow plastic bag to be used for disposable contaminated items.
   b. Stock additional gloves, shoe covers, and radioactive waste labels in the room for use as necessary by nursing, nuclear medicine, and radiation safety personnel. Gloves and shoe covers are used when entering the room if there is a spill.

3. Order disposable table service for the duration of the patient’s stay.

4. Inform Environmental Services that their personnel should stay out of the room until otherwise notified.

5. Prior to the administration of I-131 nursing personnel will be briefed on radiation safety precautions. Use Form (18.8.1.12), “Nursing Instructions for Patients treated with I-131” and other applicable forms (18.8.1.24 -26), “Radiation Safety checklist for Iodine Therapy under 33 Millicuries” as an outline.

6. Leave a written copy of the radiation safety precautions at the nurses’ station. Training Director for Radiation Safety will ensure training is current for nursing personnel. Document training on Form (18.8.1.14) and retain.

7. Administering personnel will brief patient on radiation safety procedures for the dosage administration, visitor control, radioactive waste, and other items as applicable.