

State of North Carolina
Department of Environment,
Health and Natural Resources

Division of Radiation Protection

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor
Jonathan B. Howes, Secretary
Dayne H. Brown, Director



DRP INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 95-04

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Medical Licensees

FROM: J. Marion Eaddy III, Health Physicist 
Radioactive Materials Section

SUBJECT: Visiting Physician (*locum tenens*) Requirements

DATE: 25 September 1995

Recently, there have been several instances in which the visiting physician provisions for medical licensees have not been followed correctly. The purpose of this informational bulletin is to clarify any misconceptions about the visiting physician procedures.

Most licenses have a visiting physician condition listed in the standard conditions section of the document. There are four (4) parameters which should be adhered to when considering the use of visiting physicians:

- (a) It is for a period NOT to exceed 60 days in one (1) calendar year;
- (b) Permission must be given by the hospital administrator and the Medical Isotope Committee PRIOR to the physician performing procedures;
- (c) The physician MUST be specifically named as an authorized user on a N.C. Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources Radioactive Materials License, and;
- (d) The physician performs ONLY those procedures for which specifically authorized on the above mentioned license.

Adequate documentation of the above listed actions MUST be maintained by the licensee for Agency review at the time of inspection. This documentation shall include the following:

- (1) Entries in the Medical Isotopes Committee minutes reflecting the acceptance of the physician as a visiting physician AND the prior written approval of both the committee and the hospital administrator;
- (2) A copy of the N.C. Dept. of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources Radioactive Materials License which SPECIFICALLY names the physician as an authorized user.

If your current license does not have this standard condition listed, you may contact the Agency with an amendment request to have the provision added if you desire to use *locum tenens* coverage. If you currently use *locum tenens* coverage, please review your files to ensure that you have the appropriate documentation.