

April 25, 2012

TO: All Tanning Registrants and Tanning Service Providers

FROM: Catherine Rosfjord, Tanning Program Manager

RE: Red Light Therapy Lamps and Units

Radiation Protection Section (RPS) is issuing this notice to provide information regarding red light therapy. RPS is aware that some tanning facilities are using red light therapy lamps in UV tanning units. At this time, the FDA has not approved the use of red light therapy lamps in tanning units (see December, 2011 memo). However, it has been brought to RPS attention that some red light therapy lamp manufacturers have applied for 510(k) status with the FDA and are awaiting approval.

At this time, RPS has come to a decision not to cite for use of red light therapy lamps in tanning units until the issue is further resolved. The overall mission of RPS is to protect the public from hazards associated with radiation and to reduce UV exposure. Red light therapy lamps do not produce UV radiation and at this time RPS is not aware of any dangers posed by using red light therapy lamps in tanning units.

If the policy regarding the use of red light therapy lamps in tanning bed units changes, facilities will be informed through the RPS website to ensure that tanning facilities can remain in compliance. Please consult lamp distributors for further clarification regarding use of red light therapy lamps in specific beds.

Please feel free to contact your regional inspector or me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Rosfjord*

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Tanning Program Manager

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