



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Division of Environmental Safety and Health
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BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

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Lt. Governor

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Dear Registrant of Computed Tomography (CT) equipment:

This letter pertains to two very important issues that affect facilities using Computed Tomography (CT) equipment: Monitoring patient radiation dose as part of New Jersey quality assurance regulations and completion of a Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) questionnaire for facilities performing CT Brain Perfusion studies.

Since 2004, the Bureau of X-ray Compliance (Bureau) has closely monitored CT patient dose in New Jersey as part of its Diagnostic X-ray Quality Assurance Program. According to N.J.A.C. 7:28-22.10(a), Table 6, test item 2, "Patient Dose" must be measured annually by a medical physicist who is certified in CT by the Department of Environmental Protection. To date, the limited data collected by the Bureau has shown a decrease in patient radiation dose at New Jersey CT facilities.

In an effort to obtain more complete CT patient dose information, the Bureau is requiring all CT facilities to begin submitting copies of their annual survey results to our office at the fax number or address above or you may email the survey to bxrc@dep.state.nj.us. The submittal requirements pertain to surveys conducted on or after January 1, 2011. Please make sure that your submission includes your facility name, DEP facility ID number, the CT manufacturer's name, the CT slice number, the physicist's name and the survey date. Additionally please include corrective actions taken to address any high dose findings. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:28-2.11(b), the Department requests the above information be submitted within 60 days of the survey date or the receipt of this letter, which ever is greater. Failure to respond to this request may result in the issuance of an enforcement action and/or penalty assessment.

The second issue affects facilities that perform CT Brain Perfusion studies. In response to recent articles regarding high patient radiation exposure related to these studies, the CRCPD has developed a questionnaire to evaluate the practice of facilities that perform Brain Perfusion studies. In order to collect the questionnaire data as efficiently as possible, the Bureau requests that you complete the enclosed questionnaire for each CT unit at your facility. If your facility does not perform Brain Perfusion studies, only complete questions 2 and 3. All facilities are asked to **fax the completed CT Brain Perfusion questionnaires to the number above by February 15, 2011.**

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Ramona Chambus at 609-984-5370