LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER - SHREVEPORT

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR DISLODGED OR LOST CESIUM IMPLANT

Purpose:

To provide a mechanism to safely handle dislodged or lost Cesium Implants (sources).

Policy:

A. Upon discovery of implanted radioactive source(s) out of applicator or applicator out of vagina:

1. Place source(s) or loaded applicators in transport cart using the following precautions:
   a. Handle sources using forceps with minimal pressure.
   b. Keep sources extended away from body at least 15 cm.

2. Place source(s) in transport cart in patient’s bathroom.

3. Record in the patient’s chart the time the sources or applicators were discovered out of place.

4. Call Therapeutic Physicist, ext. 55329 or Beeper #0448.

5. Notify Therapeutic Radiology Physician. (Beeper #0416)

6. After hours, contact Radiation Oncologist On-Call and/or Therapist On-Call.

B. In case of lost source(s):

1. Call Therapeutic Physicist immediately, ext. 55329 or Beeper #0167.

2. Notify Therapeutic Radiology Physician, ext. 55334 or Beeper #0416.

3. Leave patient in room with minimal attendance.
4. Do not allow any visitors to enter the patient’s room.

5. Do not remove any items from the patient’s room.

6. Do not move anything in the patient’s room.

7. Do not flush toilet.

Administrator

7/23/04 _____________
Date

Written: 1/86
Revised: 4/95, 5/01, 7/04
Reviewed: 5/98
Approved by Clinical Board: 5/15/01