

From: [Jeff Caldwell](#)
To: [Consultation \(CNSC/CCSN\)](#)
Subject: Feedback on Regdoc-2.7.3: Radiation Protection Guidelines for Safe Handling of Decedents
Date: 14 septembre 2017 10:24:24

Good morning.

A copy of the consultation draft has been circulated to my desk, and after reading I would like to offer suggestions that may already echo comments made by the deathcare industry.

First, just a point of clarification on points 6.1.1, 6.2.1 and 6.3.1: the document says to "minimize direct contact with the arterial drainage tube..." Drainage tubes, when used, are inserted to the venous system.

Second, I wonder if those working on this endeavour have looked into ways to ensure family members actually ARE informed of radiation therapy when it occurs. Experience has shown that in many circumstances families have not been aware of a relatively large implant like a pacemaker (which disqualifies a decedent from cremation unless removed) and the embalmer has then found one under the skin when preparing the remains. In rare circumstances the crematorium operator discovers the presence when one explodes during cremation. When considering all the facets of a recent death and the responsibilities family members must undertake, a perceived 'little thing' such as the therapy the deceased underwent may not be known (funeral director students are informed of nuclear therapies and trained to ask these questions as they are trained to ask about the presence of pacemakers). A card carried in the deceased's wallet is only useful if the wallet is present and opened, and might it well be missed in most situations.

Is it possible to mandate the recipient of nuclear therapy share the information about the therapy with, and a copy of the card be provided to, the legal representative of the deceased so in the circumstance of a death this information is known at the time funeral arrangements are made?

Thank you for your time as you consider these points.

J

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"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."
- Dr. Seuss

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further. Thank you for your co-operation and assistance.