

DATE: February 17, 2011
TO: All State Licensed Inspectors and Registered Service Providers
THROUGH: Roland G. Fletcher, Manager IV, Radiological Health Program (RHP)
FROM: Eva Nair, Chief, Radiation Machines Division (RMD)
Jerry Adams, Section Head, Radiation Machines Division
SUBJECT: State Licensed Private Inspector and Service Provider Newsletter, February 2011

Meeting Location at Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

On December 14, 2010, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Radiological Health Program hosted the State Licensed Private Inspectors and Service Providers.

Presentation Material

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the presentations, please contact Mr. Jerry Adams. In the future, these presentations will be available on MDE's website.

IMPACT OF DENTAL BILL 664

There are several changes put into place by the passing of Bill 664.-This Bill only applies to Dental facilities:

1. It requires a State inspector to provide a dental office or facility a written notice of violations found at the time of the inspection but with one exception allows the facility to correct the finding **within 20 working days without penalty.**
2. The only exception to this prohibition is the Department may impose a fine if the violation(s) reveals a serious hazard, condition or potential danger to patients or employees.
3. Dental offices must be given 30 days notice before an inspection can be performed.
4. An Inspection cannot be performed within three years of the previous inspection unless there are violations or a potential radiation hazard.
5. Any finding that is not corrected within 20 working days, with documentation of corrections delivered to the department by the 45th day following the Notice of Violation, is subject to penalty beginning on the date of issue of the NOV.

REGULATIONS

Supplement 18: Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.12.01.01 Title: Regulations for the Control of Ionizing Radiation (1994). Effective November 15, 2010.

Preventative Maintenance:

F.3 (d) - The regulation will require each registrant to provide to the RMD written documentation to demonstrate that the preventative maintenance has been performed for each radiation machine. Also, if documentation regarding the recommended maintenance schedule is not available from the manufacturer, then preventative maintenance must be performed on an annual basis.

Service providers are required to put their documented numerical data/findings on their PM worksheets provided to the site. PM documentation that does not include details of final performance of the equipment could result in the PM being disallowed and the registrant potentially being subject to a penalty.

Equipment performance tolerances for reproducibility, accuracy, and linearity are based on the tolerance numbers posted and supplied by the radiation machine manufacturer. If the manufacturer does not specify tolerances then use a standard + or -10%.

Area Survey/Plan Reviews

Podiatry and Bone Density Facilities are not required to submit Plan reviews or Area Surveys prior to installation and operation of an x-ray machine.

Private Inspector License Requirement

According to Subtitle 1, "Civil and Criminal Enforcement" of Title 10, "Support in General" of Family Law, Annotated Code of Maryland, a licensing authority shall require each applicant for a license to disclose the Social Security Number (SSN) and record the number on the application. The Radiation Machines Division therefore requires that State licensed private inspectors include their SSN on the RX32. If you need additional information about Article 10-119.3, please contact Ms. Eva Nair.

State Licensed Private Inspectors Audit

A State licensed private inspector has 30 days from the date of an inspection to submit the State certification paperwork to the RMD. Failure to comply with COMAR 26.12.01.03C(5) and the 30 day submission limit may lead the RMD to deny a license renewal application, or suspend or revoke an active license.

Maryland State Certification Inspections

All RX1 forms submitted to the RMD are to be completed in their entirety, especially the Federal Identification Number, a current Registration Number, an accurate Preventative Maintenance Schedule and active Machine Numbers. Any cited inspection violations must be recorded in the inspection report and listed and properly cited on the RX2 forms.

Personnel Monitoring

All radiation machine facilities are required to have continuous personnel monitoring for all occupationally exposed workers:

1. At the discretion of the MDE/RHP, bone density facilities and podiatry facilities may be exempted from monitoring after receiving Agency approval.
2. Effective January 2011, the RMD will perform random audits on service companies to review the personnel dosimetry records to ensure that COMAR 26.12.01.01D.502 is being met. Service technicians, by the nature of their work, are considered Radiation Workers under the regulations and are expected to be individually monitored for exposure

Website Update

The RMD continues to update the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Radiological Health Program website to include revised x-ray forms; RX1, RX1A, RX2, RX2A, and RX24. The Registered Service Provider List and the State Licensed Private Inspector list have been updated. The Web section called Upcoming Events is updated frequently to reflect RHP informational meetings to be held at MDE. Please contact Mr. Jerry Adams or Mr. Ahsan Bhatti to make changes to the Registered Service provider list or the State Licensed Private Inspector list posted on the website.

Important RHP web pages:

<http://www.mde.state.md.us/Pages/Home.aspx>

http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Air/RadiologicalHealth/XRayApplicationFormsandGuidance/Pages/Programs/AirPrograms/radiological_health/xray_applications/index.aspx