



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

g/1687d

San Francisco District
1431 Harbor Bay Parkway
Alameda, CA 94502-7070
Telephone: 510/337-6700

WARNING LETTER

August 24, 2001

via Federal Express

MQSA Facility ID: 167320
Inspection ID: 1673200013

FDA Reference #: 2951984

Caroline Millar, M.D.
Visalia Medical Clinic, Inc.
5400 W. Hillsdale Drive
Visalia, CA 93291

Dear Dr. Millar:

We are writing to you because on July 12, 2001, your facility was inspected by a representative of the State of California, acting on behalf of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This inspection revealed a serious regulatory problem involving the mammography at your facility.

Under a United States Federal law, the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992, your facility must meet specific requirements for mammography. These requirements help protect the health of women by assuring that a facility can perform quality mammography. The inspection revealed the following repeat Level 2 findings at your facility:

1. Failure to produce documents verifying that the interpreting physician [REDACTED] met the continuing experience requirement of having interpreted or multi-read 960 mammograms in 24 months.
2. one of eight random reports reviewed did not contain an acceptable assessment category for site Visalia Medical Clinic, Inc.

The specific problems noted above appeared on your MQSA Facility Inspection Report, which was issued to your facility at the close of the inspection.

Because these conditions may be symptomatic of serious underlying problems that could compromise the quality of mammography at your facility, they represent a serious violation of the law which may result in FDA taking regulatory action without further

notice to you. These actions include, but are not limited to, placing your facility under a Directed Plan of Correction, charging your facility for the cost of on-site monitoring, assessing civil money penalties up to \$10,000 for each failure to substantially comply with, or each day of failure to substantially comply with, MQSA Standards, suspension or revocation of your facility's FDA certificate, or obtaining a court injunction against further mammography.

In addition, your response should address the repeated Level 3 finding that was listed on the inspection report provided to you at the close of the inspection. This repeated Level 3 finding is:

1. The required personnel qualification documents were not available during the inspection.

It is necessary for you to act on this matter immediately. Please explain to this office in writing within fifteen (15) working days from the date you received this letter:

- the specific steps you have taken to correct all of the violations noted in this letter;
- each step your facility is taking to prevent the recurrence of similar violations;
- equipment settings (including technique factors), raw test data, and calculated final results, where appropriate; and
- sample records that demonstrate proper record keeping procedures, if the findings relate to quality control or other records (Note: Patient names or identification should be deleted from any copies submitted).*

Please submit your response to:

Russell A. Campbell, Compliance Officer
San Francisco District
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
1431 Harbor Bay Parkway
Alameda, CA 94502

Finally, you should understand that there are many FDA requirements pertaining to mammography. This letter pertains only to findings of your inspection and does not necessarily address other obligations you have under the law. You may obtain general information about all of FDA's requirements for mammography facilities by contacting the Mammography Quality Assurance Program, Food and Drug Administration, P.O.

**This note is not applicable for letters which also address patient notification*

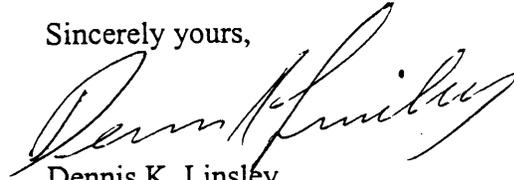
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Box 6057, Columbia, MD 21045-6057 (1-800-838-7715) or through the Internet at
<http://www.fda.gov>.

If you have more specific questions about mammography facility requirements, or about
the content of this letter, please feel free to contact Russell A. Campbell at 510-337-6861.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis K. Linsley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "L".

Dennis K. Linsley
District Director