



*Redacted by S. Davis 11/1/98
O/HFI-35 mailer*

Food and Drug Administration
Detroit District
1560 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, MI 48207-3179
Telephone: 313-226-6260

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

WARNING LETTER
99-DT-02

November 2, 1998

Mr. Timothy Washburn
Radiology Manager
Metropolitan Hospital
1919 Boston, S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Dear Mr. Washburn:

Your facility was inspected on October 15, 1998 by a representative of the State of Michigan, acting in behalf of the Food & Drug Administration (FDA). The inspection revealed that your facility failed to comply with certain of the Quality Standards for Mammography (Standards) as specified in Title 21, Code of Federal regulations (CFR), Part 900.12, as follows:

The darkroom fog was measured to be [REDACTED] optical density (O.D.) units. The Quality Standards specify that the fog level in the darkroom not exceed 0.05 O.D. units.

The specific deficiency noted above appeared under the Repeat Level 2 heading on your MQSA Facility Inspection Report (copy enclosed), which was issued at the close of the inspection. The deficiency may be symptomatic of serious underlying problems that could compromise the quality of the mammography at your facility.

This acknowledges your response letter dated October 27, 1998 which indicates that you will be purchasing a new processor and constructing a new darkroom to correct the fog level problems. Please provide this office a notice when the construction is completed and submit a darkroom fog film for the new darkroom.

Your response did not address the Repeat Level 3 noncompliance that was listed on the inspection report provided at the close of the inspection. The noncompliance is as follows:

Mammograms were processed at least once where the medium density or density difference or base plus fog was out of control.

Within 15 working days after receiving this letter, you should notify the FDA in writing of:

- the specific steps you have taken to correct the Repeat Level 3 violation 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 noncompliances that were found relate to quality control or other records (Note: Patient names or identification should be deleted from any copies submitted).

It is your responsibility to ensure adherence to each requirement of the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992 (MQSA) and FDA's regulations. You are responsible for investigating and determining the cause of the deficiencies that the inspection identifies and promptly indicate permanent corrective actions.

If you fail to promptly correct these deficiencies, FDA may, without further notice, initiate regulatory action. Under MQSA, FDA may:

- impose civil money penalties on a facility of up to \$10,000 for each failure to substantially comply with, or each day of failure to substantially comply with, the Standards.
- suspend or revoke a facility's FDA certificate for failure to comply with the Standards.
- seek an injunction in federal court to prohibit any mammography activity that constitutes a serious risk to human health.

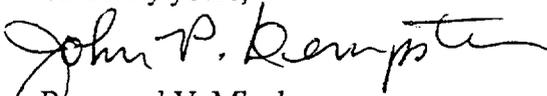
Please note that FDA regulations do not preclude a State from enforcing its own State mammography laws and regulations. In some cases, these requirements may be more stringent than FDA's. When you plan your corrective actions, you should consider the more stringent State requirements, if any.

If your facility is unable to complete the corrective action within 15 working days, you should state the reason for the delay and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Please send the original copy of your response to Mr. David M. Kaszubski, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food & Drug Administration, 1560 East Jefferson Ave., Detroit, MI 48207. Also send a copy to the State of Michigan radiation control office that conducted the inspection referenced in this letter. You may choose to address both the FDA and any additional State requirements in your response.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or how to ensure that you are meeting MQSA standards, please call Mr. Dennis E. Swartz, Radiological Health Expert, at 313-226-6260 Ext. 155.

Sincerely yours,


for Raymond V. Mlecko
Acting District Director
Detroit District

Enclosures:a/s