



February 22, 2000

WARNING LETTER NYK 2000-37

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Stephen W. Lastig, M.D.
Women's Health Center of South Nassau
2750 Merrick Road
Bellmore, New York 11710

RE: Facility ID Number 222418

Dear Dr. Lastig:

Your facility was inspected on February 16, 2000 by a representative of the Nassau County Department of Health, 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 Level 1 finding at your facility:

- *Phantom QC records were missing for 11 weeks including the weeks of May 9, May 23, June 6, June 13, June 20, June 27, July 4, July 11, July 18, August 1, and August 8.*

The specific problem noted above appeared on your MQSA Facility Inspection Report which was issued to your facility at the close of the inspection. This problem is identified as Level 1 because it identifies a failure to meet a significant MQSA requirement.

Because this condition may be symptomatic of serious underlying problems that could compromise the quality of mammography at your facility, it represents a 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; obtaining a court injunction against further mammography.

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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 that you receive this letter each step your facility is taking to prevent the recurrence of a similar violation.

Please submit your response to the attention of Lisa M. Utz, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 300 Pearl Street, Olympic Towers, Suite 100, Buffalo, New York 14202.

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

If you have any questions about mammography facility requirements, you may contact Murray L. Kurzman, Radiation Programs Manager, at (516) 921-2035.

Sincerely,



Brenda J. Holman
District Director