

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, SECTION 3.3, NND PROJECT  
 NUMBER NA108 947527 BY RB/VSW, DATE 6/21/94

U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL  
 National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.

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 Serial No. 131

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19 January 1950

End-2 on BuMed Conf.Memo, BUMED-74, Serial No. 05000 of 6 Jan 50.

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, National Naval Medical Center.

Subj: Van de Graaf Generator for installation at the Naval  
 Radiological Defense Laboratory, San Francisco, Calif.

1. Returned with the following comment.
2. The records of the hospital over the past two years show over 500 cases of malignant diseases were under treatment. It is estimated that approximately 50% of these cases were of the type that would have been benefited by super voltage X-ray therapy that is available from this type of equipment.
3. The hospital, therefore, desires the retention of the equipment in a location at the Medical Center so that its services can be utilized for the treatment of clinical cases. Such a location would not interfere with its use for research purposes by other activities in the Washington area. The transference; however, to California would probably preclude its employment in treating clinical cases.

F.C. GREAVES

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Encl: (2)

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subject: Justification for installation of Van de Graaf generator.

to make effective use of same therapy.

The value of deep therapy is naturally related to the dose of radiation which reaches the deeper tissues. The utility of the conventional 200 and 400 KV deep therapy units is still limited, in that maximum effect is still at the level of the skin, with relatively low mid-body dosage less than half the skin dose. With 1 and 2 MEV rays or more, depth dosage is increased and it can be said that whatever can be accomplished by deep X-ray therapy can be done better by rays in the million volt ranges.

This increased effectiveness produces improvement in results in properly selected cases and also makes possible lessening of distress and skin damage to the patient, both of which are most important factors, as well as clinical efficiency.

It should be noted too that it will be of value not only in deep seated cancer, but also in some non-malignant conditions where repeated courses of treatment are to be anticipated and skin damage minimized.

These considerations have led to ever increasing use of super-voltage x-rays therapy so that it is now a well evaluated therapeutic agent widely employed and virtually standard equipment in larger medical centers.

In the case of the National Naval Medical Center, need is justified by a large and important clientele, among whom are always a number of cases requiring deep therapy. It is also a teaching

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institution with an able consulting staff and in excellent position to make effective use of such therapy.

NAMS/A 2 ME Van de Graaf x-ray generator has recently been acquired from BiOrd and awaits installation. It thus becomes possible to equip the Naval Hospital with an excellent unit at a relatively low cost.

Plans have been drawn up for a suitable structure adjoining Ward 104 and are submitted herewith.

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding the acquisition and installation of a Van de Graaf x-ray generator at the Naval Hospital. It is anticipated that approximately one of these units were of the type that could have been obtained by other means. It is necessary to provide information regarding the type of generator.

The generator, which is a Van de Graaf type, is a high voltage generator used for the production of x-rays. It is a portable unit and can be used in a variety of settings. The generator is a Van de Graaf type and is a high voltage generator used for the production of x-rays. It is a portable unit and can be used in a variety of settings.