

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

628

TO : Chairman, Radiation Committee, NIH

DATE: 3 May 1973

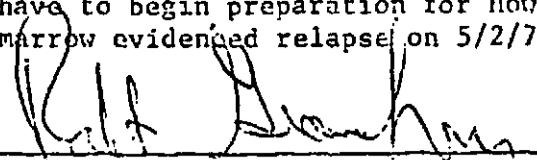
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FROM : Head, Experimental Hematology Section, POB, MO, DCT, NCI

SUBJECT: Approval for the Use of AFRRI Cobalt-60 Radiation Source

To confirm our telephone conversation of 30 April 1973, I am sending this memo requesting approval for total body gamma irradiation to be administered to two patients. The first patient is Crystal Crews, a 25-year-old patient with chronic myelogenous leukemia who has become refractory to combination chemotherapy. He is now a candidate for bone marrow transplantation (having failed bone marrow transplantation utilizing chemotherapy for immunosuppression). It is anticipated that this bone marrow transplant will take place within the next four weeks and be performed following 1,000 rads (administered at 20 rads a minute). The total gamma irradiation will be administered at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Institute. This radiation procedure will be similar to those previously done with the cobalt source at the National Institutes of Health. On three previous occasions patients (U.S. Navy patients) have been given total body gamma irradiation at the AFRRI facility without unexpected sequelae.

Our second patient, Howard Dieterlee, a patient with acute myelogenous leukemia (17 years old) received a bone marrow transplant from his identical-twin brother 3 1/2 months ago. This first bone marrow transplant was performed using combination chemotherapy for tumor irradiation and immunosuppression. With recurrence of his tumor, it is anticipated that a second bone marrow transplantation procedure will be performed using total body gamma irradiation for immunosuppression. The details of the irradiation are similar to those for Crystal Crews above. In each case both patients have become refractory to combination chemotherapy and it is considered in the patients best interest to have tumor ablation performed with total body gamma irradiation prior to marrow transplantation. In both cases, informed consent will be obtained from the patient and relatives. If I can supply any further information concerning this approval please do not hesitate to call on me. It is anticipated that each of these procedures will be performed within the next 60 days. It appears that we may have to begin preparation for Howard Dieterlee within 4 days since his bone marrow evidenced relapse on 5/2/73.


Robert G. Graw, Jr., M.D.

cc: John L. Ziegler, M.D.
Thomas Pomeroy, M.D.
Col. Buzz Stromberg, AFRRI ✓