

**An Agreement Between the  
Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute  
and the  
National Naval Medical Center**

I. The NNMC has occasional need to provide total body irradiation as a therapeutic modality for certain patients, in accordance with protocols, reviewed and approved by the Surgeon General of the Navy and the Secretary of the Navy. NNMC does not operate a cobalt-60 facility capable of delivering total body irradiation. The Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) does operate such a facility. The purpose of this Agreement is to delineate an arrangement whereby patients from the NNMC can receive whole body radiation treatment at the AFRRI.

II. It is understood and agreed that the sole participation of and responsibility of the AFRRI in connection with the total body irradiation is to make available the AFRRI cobalt-60 facility and to provide the technical support specified in this agreement. Medical and all other aspects of the irradiation are the responsibility of the NNMC. It is further understood that the use of the AFRRI cobalt-60 facility by the NNMC under this agreement is limited to therapeutic treatment of patients.

III. Requirement for Technical Support: The NNMC requires the following support and personnel to accomplish the total body irradiation.

(1) Access to the cobalt-60 facility at the AFRRI on an irregular basis, depending upon the clinical needs of the Hospital.

(2) Dosimetry of the radiation field of the cobalt-60 facility in its dual, apposed sources mode.

(3) Personnel to operate and monitor the cobalt-60 facility while patients are being exposed.

IV. The AFRRI will provide the support detailed in paragraph III, without reimbursement of expenses incurred (providing there is no interference with the primary mission and functions of the AFRRI), and in accordance with the stipulations below (paragraphs V - X).

V. Protocols: The protocols, pursuant to which the cobalt-60 facility at the AFRRI will be made available under the terms of this agreement, are those approved by the Surgeon General of the U. S. Navy and the Secretary of the Navy.

**VI. Patient Selection:** The only patients to be irradiated will be those selected by the Bone Marrow Selection Committee of the NNMC and the Naval Medical Research Institute in accordance with the protocols described above.

**VII. Informed Consent:** Before irradiation is administered, informed consent of the patient or his parent(s) (if the patient is a minor) must be obtained in accordance with Navy and DOD regulations. The consent form will specify the nature of the radiation procedure and the more common and serious risks of this procedure, as well as the probable outcome. Individuals executing an informed consent must be advised of their right to withdraw their consent at any time. Copies of the signed consent form will be retained by the NNMC and the Director, AFRRI.

**VIII. Responsibility:** The NNMC, has overall responsibility for all operations and decisions regarding patient management, except for the right to terminate the radiation procedure in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. The NNMC will have primary responsibility for all aspects of the medical care of patients during the time they are in the AFRRI. This will include:

(1) Designation of a primary physician who will be immediately responsible for the routine and emergency medical care of each patient and who will accompany each patient to and from the AFRRI. This physician will be present during the radiation procedure at the AFRRI and will monitor the patient throughout the radiation treatment, and at all times while the patient is at AFRRI, providing such care as is required.

(2) Provision of all transportation and emergency care equipment and additional personnel required.

(3) Maintenance and proper care of all medical and emergency care equipment.

(4) Scheduling the cobalt-60 facility for use on a patient will be done jointly by a NNMC radio-therapist and an AFRRI radiation physicist.

(5) Dosimetry will be performed by a radiation physicist designated by the Director, AFRRI, with the approval of the attending radio-therapist from the NNMC. The Dosimetry will be certified by the attending radio-therapist.

(6) Proper operation of the cobalt-60 facility will be the responsibility of a radiation physicist designated by the Director, AFRRI.

(7) Decisions regarding the total dose administered, dose rate, premedication, and care of the patient during the irradiation procedure will be the responsibility of a qualified radio-therapist designated by the Commanding Officer, NNMC.

a. Under normal circumstances the radiation procedure will be terminated by the radio-therapist when the full dose has been delivered. He may terminate the procedure at anytime before the full dose has been received. He will also have the authority to resume the radiation procedure after a temporary halt in the procedure.

b. The primary physician responsible for the medical care of the patient will also have authority to terminate the procedure before the full dose has been received. He also has authority to resume the radiation procedure after a temporary halt.

c. The Director or Deputy Director, AFRRRI, may terminate the radiation procedure on any patient at any time. Their authority in this regard exceeds that of both the radio-therapist and the primary physician.

IX. Review of Agreement: This agreement shall be reviewed at least annually by each party to evaluate its effectiveness and determine need for modification. Changes agreed upon will be effective on a mutually agreed date. This agreement is subject to modification or termination as mutually agreed in accordance with the following:

(1) Request for modification will be furnished by one party to the other by written notice at least 60 days prior to effective date such modification is desired. Modifications to this agreement will be numbered.

(2) Either party may terminate this agreement at any time.

X. Publicity: Any information regarding any aspect of the program encompassed by this agreement will be released to the public only through the Public Information Office of the Commanding Officer, National Naval Medical Center, and only after review and approval by the Director of the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute and the Commanding Officer, NNMC, Bethesda, Maryland.

XI. Approval and Agreement: This agreement shall become effective upon completion of the appropriate signatures and will remain effective until 31 December 1982 or until it is modified or terminated in accordance with paragraph IX above. This agreement supercedes the agreement dated 19 January 1973.

D. Earl Brown, Jr.  
D. EARL BROWN, JR.  
CAPT, MC, USN  
Director, Professional Services  
National Naval Medical Center  
Bethesda, Maryland

Date 1 Feb. 1974

R. G. Williams, Jr.  
R. G. WILLIAMS, JR.  
RADM, MC, USN  
Commanding Officer  
National Naval Medical Center  
Bethesda, Maryland

Date 1 Feb 74

M. I. Varon  
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Director  
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Date 24 Jan 1974

Warren D. Johnson  
WARREN D. JOHNSON  
Lt Gen, USAF  
Director  
Defense Nuclear Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Date 14 Feb 1974