§ 35.415 Safety precautions.

(a) For each patient or human research subject who is receiving brachytherapy and cannot be released under § 35.75, a licensee shall—

(1) Not quarter the patient or the human research subject in the same room as an individual who is not receiving brachytherapy;
(2) Visibly post the patient’s or human research subject’s room with a “Radioactive Materials” sign; and
(3) Note on the door or in the patient’s or human research subject’s chart where and how long visitors may stay in the patient’s or human research subject’s room.

(b) A licensee shall have applicable emergency response equipment available near each treatment room to respond to a source—

(1) Dislodged from the patient; and
(2) Lodged within the patient following removal of the source applicators.

(c) A licensee shall notify the Radiation Safety Officer, or his or her designee, and an authorized user as soon as possible if the patient or human research subject has a medical emergency or dies.

§ 35.432 Calibration measurements of brachytherapy sources.

(a) Before the first medical use of a brachytherapy source on or after October 24, 2002, a licensee shall have—

(1) Determined the source output or activity using a dosimetry system that meets the requirements of § 35.630(a);
(2) Determined source positioning accuracy within applicators; and
(3) Used published protocols currently accepted by nationally recognized bodies to meet the requirements of paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section.

(b) Instead of a licensee making its own measurements as required in paragraph (a) of this section, the licensee may use measurements provided by the source manufacturer or by a calibration laboratory accredited by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine that are made in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) A licensee shall mathematically correct the outputs or activities determined in paragraph (a) of this section for physical decay at intervals consistent with 1 percent physical decay.

(d) A licensee shall retain a record of each calibration in accordance with § 35.2432.

§ 35.433 Decay of strontium-90 sources for ophthalmic treatments.

(a) Only an authorized medical physicist shall calculate the activity of each strontium-90 source that is used to determine the treatment times for ophthalmic treatments. The decay must be based on the activity determined under § 35.432.

(b) A licensee shall retain a record of the activity of each strontium-90 source in accordance with § 35.2433.

§ 35.457 Therapy-related computer systems.

The licensee shall perform acceptance testing on the treatment planning system of therapy-related computer systems in accordance with published protocols accepted by nationally recognized bodies. At a minimum, the acceptance testing must include, as applicable, verification of:

(a) The source-specific input parameters required by the dose calculation algorithm;
(b) The accuracy of dose, dwell time, and treatment time calculations at representative points;
(c) The accuracy of isodose plots and graphic displays; and
(d) The accuracy of the software used to determine sealed source positions from radiographic images.

§ 35.490 Training for use of manual brachytherapy sources.

Except as provided in § 35.57, the licensee shall require an authorized user