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# Newsletter



## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER OF THE HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

**Volume XXXVII No. 7**  
May 2001

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## Convenience-Store Giant 7-Eleven® to Feature Cell-Phone-Radiation Device SafeTShield™ Nationwide

State-of-the-Art Safety Device Arrives in May at World's Largest Operator, Franchisor and Licensor of Convenience Stores

*Submitted by William Lorenzen*

BOCA RATON, Fla., April 11 /PRNewswire/ -- SafeTShield™, a state-of-the-art cell phone radiation-reducing device, will be available at participating 7-Eleven stores nationwide in May. 7-Eleven is the world's largest operator, franchisor and licensor of convenience stores. The industry giant offers customers 24-hour convenience, seven days a week at more than 5,200 7-Eleven stores in the United States. Pioneers of the convenience store concept, the chain serves approximately 6 million customers every day.

According to Deborah Jenkins, president and CEO of SV1, the company that developed SafeTShield, "Everyone at SV1 is extremely enthusiastic about being showcased at such an industry giant as 7-Eleven. Now consumers who are concerned about potentially serious health risks associated with cell phone use can pick-up SafeTShield. 7-Eleven serves that very hectic consumer who is on the go and on the phone -- proving the perfect retail outlet for our customer base to grab our invaluable product."

With 85 million cell phones in the United States alone and some 500 million worldwide, researchers and consumers have grown increasingly concerned about possible long-term health risks associated with electromagnetic radiation (EMR). While many scientists debate whether there is a direct link between long-term exposure to EMR and brain cancer, an alarming number of cell users are reporting negative health effects such as headaches, memory loss, and hearing trouble.

SafeTShield uses PolyCarbon Metallic Fiber (PCMF™), an advanced material previously used for military defense purposes, to reduce EMR. The small, affordable oval-shaped device, which easily attaches over the ear piece, significantly reduces the potentially harmful EMR from the ear piece of a cellular phone from entering the brain via the ear canal. SafeTShield is one of the most comprehensively tested products of its kind in the world and is available at participating 7-Eleven stores at a

suggested retail price of \$14.95.

## In Memoriam

Dennis Boyden, age 55, passed away Wednesday April 25 due to injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident. Dennis graduated from Wentworth Institute of Technology with a degree in nuclear engineering technology, served in the US Air Force and for the past 31 years was employed as a radiation protection technician at the MIT Bates Linear Accelerator. He was an active member of the NECHPS since 1968. Donations in his memory can be made to the Dennis Boyden Fund at the North Cambridge Cooperative Bank, 2360 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140.

## World Traveler Update...

NECHPS Secretary returns from Down Under

Margaret McCarthy has returned from Victoria University in Melbourne, Australia. There she met with an old acquaintance, David V. Webb, of the Australian National Radiation Laboratory. She spent one day on tour learning about the radiation programs. Australia has one of the best UV protection and preventative program in the world. David is responsible for report the daily UV results to the media; additionally, he is responsible for maintenance of the LINAC and supervision of graduate students from around the country who use the facilities there. David will be giving a PEP talk at the Annual HPS Meeting in Cleveland on his facility. Margaret's talk will be on the workshop credentialing process.

# NECHPS Annual Meeting

June 5, 2001

Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center  
219 Littleton Road  
Westford, Massachusetts

## Program

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>8:00 - 8:45</b>   | <b><i>Reception/Registration (Coffee, Juice, and Pastry)</i></b>   |
| 8:45 AM              | Welcome by Program Chair   |
| 8:45 - 9:30          | Solid waste Monitoring in PA<br>Dave Allard – Bureau of Radiation Protection   |
| 9:30 - 10:10         | Gamma Knife – Principles and Practices<br>Douglas Shearer – Rhode Island Hospital  |
| <b>10:00 - 10:45</b> | <b><i>Vendor Exhibits / Break (Coffee, Tea)</i></b>  |
| 10:45 - 11:15        | PET Imaging<br>Jack Coreia – Massachusetts General Hospital  |
| 11:15 - 11:45        | Intravascular Brachytherapy<br>Dave Medich – Implant Sciences Corp.  |
| <b>11:45 - 12:45</b> | <b><i>Buffet Lunch / Vendor Displays</i></b>   |
| 12:45 - 1:30         | NECHPS Business Meeting  |
| 1:30 - 2:00          | Student Paper Presentation - Jeomsoon Kim<br>“Calculation of Bremsstrahlung Energy Distributions for<br>First and Second Forbidden Beta Transitions in Different<br>Absorbers” |
| 2:00 - 2:30          | Patient Doses in Interventional Procedures<br>David Drum – Brigham and Women’s Hospital  |
| 2:30 - 3:00          | Releasing High Dose Radiotherapy Patients<br>Victor Evdokimoff – BU Medical Center   |
| <b>3:00 - 3:15</b>   | <b><i>Break (Coffee, Soda &amp; Cookies)</i></b>   |
| 3:15 - 3:35          | X-ray Searches for Contraband on Persons<br>Robert Scott, Roger Williams Medical Center  |
| 3:35 - 4:00          | Computed Radiography<br>John Copeland – Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center   |

## **Registration Information**

Registration Deadline: **May 29, 2001**

Meeting Cost: **\$50.00** for Members  
**\$60.00** for Non-Members  
**\$25.00** for Students

How to Register:

Online **www.nechps.org**

By E-mail: **ninni\_jacob@brown.edu**

By Phone: 401.863.1738

By Mail: Ninni Jacob  
Brown University - Box 1914  
164 Angell Street  
Providence, RI 02912

### ***Make checks payable to: NECHPS***

Directions to: Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center  
219 Littleton Road, Route 110  
Westford, Massachusetts 01886  
Phone: 978.692.8200  
Website: **www.westfordregency.com**

Traveling north on **Interstate 495**, take **Exit 32** and turn right at the end of the exit ramp.  
Traveling south on **Interstate 495**, take **Exit 32** and turn left at the end of the exit ramp.  
Proceed 1/4 mile to the first intersection and turn right on Route 110 West. The Westford Regency is 1/2 mile on your right

## Risk of Breast Cancer Elevated for Girls of Any Age After Chest Irradiation

*Excerpted from a 3/28 Reuters Health article by W. Lorenzen*

At the 92<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research Physicians Dr. Joseph Neglia of the University of Minnesota presented results from the most recent study linking cancer treatment to secondary disease. His data show that 3% of 13,581 people who had cancer treated before age 21 developed a cancer later in life that was not a relapse of the original disease. Study participants were followed an average of 15 years after initial cancer treatment, with some followed as long as 20 years.

The most common secondary tumor was breast cancer, found in 60 women. In contrast to previous studies, the risk of breast cancer was elevated among women who were treated with chest irradiation at any age before age 21, not just those who had reached puberty at the time of irradiation.

The greatest excess absolute risk was among long-term survivors of Hodgkin's disease. At 20 years from diagnosis, their cumulative risk of a secondary malignancy was 7.63%. Dr. Neglia pointed out that the risk could be presumed to be lower for children now being treated for Hodgkin's, since aggressive radiation is no longer standard treatment.

Dr. Neglia cautioned that oncologists should not "pull back" in their treatment of childhood tumors, noting that some 70% of children diagnosed with cancer today will be cured of their initial disease.

## Membership Dues

Members are reminded that overdue dues should be paid as soon as possible to assure inclusion in the 2001 Member Handbook. Dues status is printed on the mailing label of the Newsletter.

Remember that the current By-Laws state that dues are \$10.00 per year, however, a payment of \$40.00 will get a member 5 years of Chapter membership.

Please send your payment to Robert L. Gallagher, Treasurer, at the MA Radiation Control Program, 174 Portland St. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02114. Dues are always accepted and payable at the Chapter's technical meetings.

**Deadline for submitting articles to the Newsletter for publication in the next issue is June 12, 2001.**

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Millennium Pharmaceuticals, located in Cambridge, MA, is looking for an EHS/Safety Manager. The EHS/Safety Manager will be responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring all health, radiation, and safety programs at designated Millennium facilities.

The individual will also serve as the Radiation Safety Officer and be responsible for overseeing the company's Comprehensive Radiation Safety Program. Responsibilities will include (but are not limited to): conducting safety training, record keeping, data management, dosimetry and ALARA review, waste management, and other projects as needed. The qualified candidate will have a history of leadership, negotiation and supervisory skills, and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team. Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Requirements: B.S. in Health Physics or equivalent and 5 years experience in the area of managing a safety program including radiation safety. Must be familiar with Massachusetts state regulations on health and radiation programs. Experience within the biotech industry preferred.

Persons interested in applying for this position should contact:

Kate Carswell  
Millennium Pharmaceuticals  
640 Memorial Drive  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Phone: 617.551.2920  
Fax: 617.374.9379  
Email: [carswell@mpi.com](mailto:carswell@mpi.com)