



Plateau Medical Center

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July 13, 1994

NIOSH Docket Office
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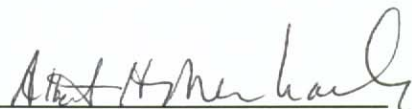
To Whom It May Concern:

In response to the proposed change in certifying respiratory devices for health care workers potentially exposed to tuberculosis, our facility would like to extend our support for the revisions.

The respiratory protective devices currently available under existing guidelines greatly restrict the choices health care facilities have in providing protection to their employees. We have found a very limited product line which will increase our supply costs for this type of item by **1300%**. Also, most employees find the choices unacceptable due to discomfort while performing routine activities and unfavorable aesthetic appeal to patients.

Prior to changing to HEPA filter masks in our facility, we used a DMF mask which employees found acceptable. We believe that if this mask or a similar type is approved as a "Class C" respirator, we will have more satisfied and, therefore, compliant employees.

We realize that you are working to meet the needs voiced by Infection Control Professionals and the requirements outlined in CDC criteria. We also hope your organization can implement the certification process in an expedient manner to provide a more practical and economic alternative respiratory protection device for health care workers.


Al Michaels, Administrator


Linda Roach BSMT(ASCP)
Infection Control Coordinator

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