

Nuclear Pharmacy Technician:

A Unique Opportunity for
Pharmacy Technicians

Objectives

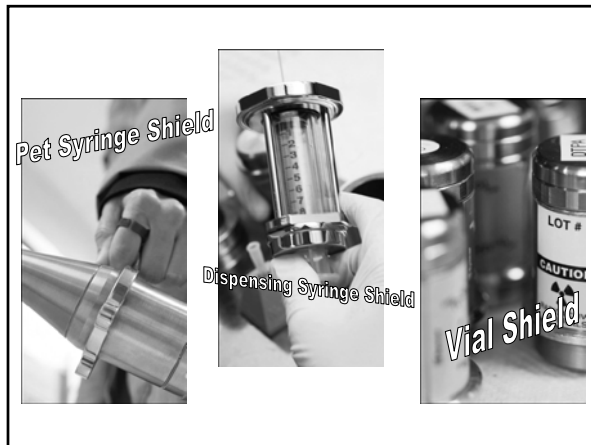
- Be able to describe what a nuclear pharmacy is
- Describe the technicians role in a nuclear pharmacy
- Explain how to become a Certified Nuclear Pharmacy Technician (CNPT)

Description of a Nuclear Pharmacy

- Handle radioactive substances
- Compound radioactive drugs
- Dispense radioactive drugs
- Deliver radioactive drugs
- Oh, and we get up early...real early

Handling Radioactive Materials

- Is it safe
- Principles of radiation safety
- Various types of shielding used



Compounding of Radioactive Drugs

- What is a radiopharmaceutical
- How are radiopharmaceuticals made
- What are radiopharmaceuticals used for

Dispensing of Radioactive Drugs

- Similar to an IV room with a few exceptions
- Has a retail twist to an IV room
- Items must be handled in a quick fashion
- More of an art than a science

Delivery of Radioactive Drugs

- What is required to ship radioactive materials
- Is a special driver's license required
- What happens if you have a wreck

Get up Early?

- Most nuclear pharmacies start their days at 2:00am
- You are finished with your day at 10:00
- Moments of insanity split up by long periods of delivery

Technician's Role in a Nuclear Pharmacy

- Dispensing of radiopharmaceuticals
- Compounding of radiopharmaceuticals
- Delivery of radiopharmaceuticals
- Aiding and participating in the radiation safety program

Technician's Role Continued

- Managing the radiation safety program
 - Radiation Safety Officer
- Compliance auditor or agent
- Quality and Regulatory
- Health physics services

Certification

- Most companies offer some type of certification
- Usually have to have worked in a nuclear pharmacy prior to becoming certified
 - 600 hours
- Should have a preceptor to help you walk through the process
- Seek an ACPE accredited school like the one at the University of Ohio

Questions?

