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March 19, 2007

**Re: Shelf Life Extension of Potassium Iodide Tablets**

To Whom It May Concern:

During the past five years, the Department of Public Health (DPH) has been stockpiling potassium iodide (KI) tablets, and distributing them on request to individuals within the three Emergency Planning Zones (EPZs) in the Commonwealth. Facilities such as schools, daycares, camps and correctional facilities have also been provided with their own stockpiles so that they would be able to distribute KI to persons in their care if necessary.

The tablets distributed under this program were obtained in 2002, and had an initial shelf life of five years, established by the manufacturer. All of these tablets came from one of three manufacturer lots, with the following lot numbers: P20022, P20023 and P20024. The expiration date marked on the packaging of these tablets was March 2007.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in a letter dated February 15, 2007, has stated with regard to these tablets that "it would be scientifically valid and, therefore, appropriate for the stockpiled lots of Iosat<sup>®</sup> Tablets to have their expiration date extended by an additional 2 years" provided that they have been stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The manufacturer recommends that KI tablets be stored at 20–25°C (68–77°F) in a dry place, with the foil packaging intact.

Therefore, in accordance with FDA guidance, the expiration date of tablets held in the DPH stockpile at the State Pharmacy, with lot numbers P20022, P20023 and P20024, is hereby extended until March 2009. Likewise, the expiration date of tablets distributed to the public and to schools, daycares, camps and correctional institutions between July 2002 and February 2007, with lot numbers P20022, P20023 and P20024, is hereby extended until March 2009 provided that the tablets have been stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions about this expiration date extension.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Walker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "W".

Robert Walker, Director  
Radiation Control Program