

January 8, 2024

The Honorable Morgan Griffith (R-VA)
2202 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Davis (D-NC)
1123 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ben Cline (R-VA)
2443 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Griffith, Davis, and Cline:

On behalf of Vascular Wellness, a community partner working with health care providers to improve the success of vascular access for patients, we commend you for introducing the bipartisan Nuclear Medicine Clarification Act of 2023 (H.R. 6815) and offer our endorsement and assistance as you work to enact this critical legislation.

Contrary to the statements of physician societies who want to avoid reporting when large extravasations expose patients unintentionally to high radiation doses, we know that nuclear medicine extravasations are avoidable, just as they are avoided in chemotherapy, contrast CT, and other medical procedures that require placing intravenous catheters or otherwise gaining access to a vein. As experts in vascular access, we know that these medical errors can be prevented with the proper tools, techniques, and training. We also believe firmly that when such an error does occur, patients deserve transparency about their care.

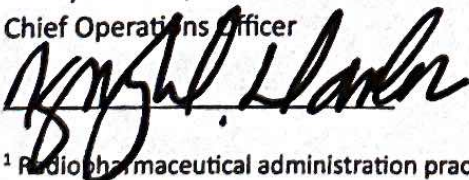
We feel strongly that the bipartisan Nuclear Medicine Clarification Act will effectively result in nuclear medicine providers ensuring they are using the proper tools and techniques to achieve vascular access, and training technologists in best practices. We are pleased that your legislation recognizes potential direct and indirect negative consequences of unintended radiation exposure, avoids interfering in the doctor-patient relationship, and includes a grace period to ease implementation.

It may also interest you to know that just this fall, two members of the Vascular Wellness team published an article in *Frontiers in Nuclear Medicine*, which showed that nuclear medicine providers, in general, do not follow venous access best practices.¹

Again, thank you for your work on this important issue. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at 336-782-2044 or nwarden@vascularwellness.com.

Sincerely,

Nancy Warden, RN
Chief Operations Officer



¹ Radiopharmaceutical administration practices – Are they best practice?
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnume.2023.1244660/full>