



**ON TAPE**

# TV TAKES

**NORTH AMERICAN PRECIS SYNDICATE, INC.**  
350 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK, NY 10118-0110 • (212) 867-9000

## HEALTH BULLETIN



OVER THREE HUNDRED MILLION RADIOLOGICAL SERVICES ARE PERFORMED IN THE U-S EACH YEAR AND X RAY AND M-R-I ARE PRACTICALLY HOUSEHOLD TERMS. BUT DESPITE THAT FAMILIARITY, DOCTORS SAY NOT TO TAKE RADIOLOGICAL PROCEDURES LIGHTLY.

IN FACT, THE UNITED STATES PHARMACOPEIA REPORTS THAT THE PERCENTAGE OF HARM FOR MEDICATION ERRORS IN RADIOLOGICAL SERVICES IS SEVEN TIMES HIGHER THAN THE PERCENT OF HARM IN ALL OTHER AREAS IT HAS STUDIED. THAT MAY SEEM SURPRISING AT FIRST, BUT CONSIDERING THAT RADIOLOGICAL SERVICES INCLUDE PROCEDURES SUCH AS ANGIOPLASTIES AND LIVER SCANS, THE STATISTIC MAY MAKE MORE SENSE.

TO PROTECT YOURSELF, KEEP AN UPDATED LIST OF YOUR MEDICATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS IN YOUR WALLET AND INFORM RADIOLOGICAL STAFF OF ALL ALLERGIES YOU HAVE. WHEN YOU GO TO RADIOLOGICAL SERVICES, MAKE SURE YOUR WHOLE CHART GOES WITH YOU AND IF THEY MOVE YOU WHILE YOU'RE IN THE HOSPITAL, MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING AND WHY.

IF YOU'RE AN OUTPATIENT, BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THE HOME PREPARATIONS FOR YOUR PROCEDURE AND HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE HOSPITAL TO ADVOCATE FOR QUALITY CARE.