

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION CENTER  
PROGRESS SUMMARY ON CI 4-16-257

Title: Early diagnosis of aseptic necrosis of the femoral head  
following traumatic dislocation of the hip

Investigators: R. L. Nutt, LCDR, MC USNR

This is a continuing study to test the validity of isotopic scanning in the early diagnosis of aseptic necrosis following traumatic hip dislocation and femoral neck fractures, including stress fractures. One immediate observation is that Technitium is superior to Fluoride-18 as a scanning agent. We are now using only Technitium for scanning

Seventeen patients have been included in the study with the longest follow-up to 30 months to date. There is positive correlation between bone scans and x-ray changes shown in the results from the first nine patients. These findings have assisted in the clinical decision for weight bearing these patients in some cases.

We plan to continue the study for the next three to four years to gather valid data and prepare reports of findings for publication. From current indications, bone scanning should be incorporated as a routine follow-up study in a larger percentage of traumatic injuries about the hip.

**ENCLOSURE(12)**