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## DOT Extends Compliance Date Again for Medical Waste Regulations

## by Gina Pugliese, RN, MS Medical News Editor

In a Federal Register notice published on December 20, 1993, the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Research and Special Programs Administration has further extended the compliance date for regulations concerning transportation of infectious substances and regulated medical waste. The new compliance date is October 1, 1994. The regulations originally were published December 21, 1990, and materially changed in revisions issued December 20, 1991. In its petition for reconsideration, filed January 17, 1992, the American Hospital Association questioned the provisions' application to medical waste, called for

interagency coordination, and urged the DOT to issue any changes in proposed form with an opportunity for public comment. The agency reportedly will issue a notice of proposed rulemaking some time in 1994, although no publication schedule has been announced.