



August 5, 2009

Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional:

Covidien is committed to providing timely updates related to the global molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) situation. Our sources at the High-Flux Reactor (HFR) in Petten, The Netherlands, report the scheduled maintenance is proceeding as planned, and they expect a return to service on August 18 as scheduled. Our Mo 99 supply from the remaining on-line reactors has been near projected availability, meeting the majority of existing orders during this heightened supply shortage.

The situation will improve when the HFR is producing Mo 99 again, but the extended shutdown of the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor in Canada remains an issue. To assist you in planning over the next few months, we obtained supply estimates from the four major medical isotope reactors in Europe and South Africa. Updated calendars detailing expected technetium 99m (Tc 99m) generator production and unit dose Tc 99m supply for the U.S., Canada and Latin America through October are shown below. NOTE: Daily projections are based on current information and are subject to change.

AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

Generator standing orders met with some extra; minimal Tc99m unit dose (UD) impact	Majority generator standing orders met but no extra; some Tc99m UD reduced	Shortage to generator standing orders; significant Tc99m shortage and UD impact
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This worldwide shortage affects the entire chain—reactors and Mo 99 processors, Tc 99m generator manufacturers, radiopharmacies, clinicians and, most importantly, the patients. Though it comes at a cost, each of us is doing our part to maximize the availability of this crucial isotope to minimize patient impact. We are confident our industry will continue to do what is needed to help ensure the broadest patient access to potentially life-saving nuclear medicine procedures.

Regardless of generator supply levels, Covidien endeavors to fairly and thoughtfully distribute our available isotope supply to reach as many patients as practicable globally. To learn more about the current Mo 99 supply situation, please visit the special update page on our web site at [www.covidien.com/Mo99supply](http://www.covidien.com/Mo99supply).

Sincerely,

John Collins, MBA, CNMT, RT (R)(N)  
Vice President, U.S. Commercial Operations