



July 8, 2009

Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional:

Covidien is committed to providing updates on molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) supply throughout the global shortage. It was announced today that the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor in Canada will not return to service before late 2009.¹ We must also remind you that the High Flux Reactor (HFR) in The Netherlands will be shut down for about four weeks for planned routine maintenance, with supply impact beginning on or about July 24. Required maintenance for this aging reactor remains crucial.

Our diversified supply chain arrangements give us long-term access to the remaining online major medical isotope reactors, with increased Mo 99 orders from each partially offsetting shortages caused by the HFR and NRU shutdowns. However, as noted previously, there will still be a more significant global shortage of Tc 99m generators during the HFR shutdown later this month.

The calendar below details anticipated Covidien Tc 99m generator supply to Europe, Middle East and Africa through August 2009. Green = 100 percent or more of *normal* (pre-NRU shutdown) generator production expected; yellow = some shortages likely; orange = severe shortages. NOTE: Daily projections are based on current data and subject to change. We are evaluating expected long-term supply based on the NRU news and will update availability beyond August soon to aid your planning.

Calendar Mo-99/Tc-99m generator deliveries*

JULY							AUGUST								
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27				1	2	3	4	31							1
28	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	32	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	33	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
30	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	34	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
31	26	27	28	29	30	31		35	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
								36	30	31					

- Standing orders are expected to be met, with extra supply likely
- Standing orders are expected to be met, some shortages likely
- Significant Tc-99m shortages to be expected

* assuming delivery one day after shipment

Regardless of generator supply levels—above, at or below normal production— Covidien endeavors to fairly and thoughtfully distribute our available isotope supply to reach as many patients globally and locally as possible. 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.

Sincerely,

Dr Christian Wirth
 President, EMEA
 Imaging Solutions

¹ “Status Report # 11- Most current assessment of Chalk River NRU reactor allows for revised guidance on timeline for return to service”, available at http://www.aec.ca/NewsRoom/Community_Bulletins/090602-2.htm. Last accessed July 8, 2009.