



July 13, 2009




Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional:

Covidien is committed to providing updates on molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) supply throughout the global shortage. It was announced on July 8<sup>th</sup> that the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor in Canada will not return to service before late 2009.<sup>1</sup> 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 generator and unit dose (UD) Tc 99m supply to U.S., Canadian and Latin American markets 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.

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

-  Current standing generator orders are expected to be met, with some extra supply likely; minimal Tc-99m UD impact
-  Current standing generator orders are expected to be met, but no extra; some Tc-99m impact and UD reductions
-  Shortages expected to current standing generator orders, significant Tc-99m shortage and UD impact

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](http://www.covidien.com/Mo99supply).

Sincerely,

Philippe Hébert  
 Director – Sales and Marketing  
 Imaging Solutions

<sup>1</sup> “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.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community\\_Bulletins/090602-2.htm](http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community_Bulletins/090602-2.htm). Last accessed July 8, 2009.