



August 20, 2009

Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional:

We are pleased to report the High-Flux Reactor (HFR) in Petten, The Netherlands, has completed its scheduled maintenance and is now back on-line as planned. We expect to begin receiving molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) from HFR this weekend, as scheduled, for technetium 99m (Tc 99m) generator production next week.

This return to service increases the availability of Mo 99, but the further extension of the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor shutdown in Canada remains an issue. Supply estimates from the four major medical isotope reactors in Europe and South Africa were used to produce calendars detailing expected Mo 99 / technetium 99m (Tc 99m) generator deliveries* for Europe, the Middle East and Africa from Covidien through October. NOTE: Daily projections are based on current information and are subject to change.

AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER									
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31							1	36			1	2	3	4	5	40					1	2	3
32	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	37	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	41	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	38	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	42	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
34	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	39	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	43	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
35	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	40	27	28	29	30				44	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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

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.

Sincerely,

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