



October 23, 2009

Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional,

Covidien maintains our leading role in obtaining molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) from sources around the world to mitigate shortages resulting from reactor shutdowns, with a focus on global patient care. We also remain devoted to critical open communication throughout this challenging situation. Our efforts toward Mo 99 supply diversification coupled with increased production have helped in responding to demand and should continue to do so over the coming months. We are also evaluating other potential sources of Mo 99 that might improve the outlook.

It is important that we collaborate to maximize patient access to technetium 99m (Tc 99m). Covidien recently launched a Tc 99m conservation program through our radiopharmacy network, encouraging more thoughtful unit dose Tc 99m ordering practices that maximize availability of supply to patients, which has resulted in hundreds of additional patient doses daily. Similar efforts are encouraged industry wide. We appreciate the nuclear medicine community's willingness to carefully schedule patients, providing greater access to those most critically in need of this vital isotope. We will continue to provide updates to supply availability in both immediate (daily, as needed) and short-term (i.e., the calendars below) fashion to help in your planning, and are still boosting production of thallous chloride Tl 201 injection for those procedures where it can be a clinically appropriate substitute.

We are pleased to provide extended, and on some weeks improved, projections of Covidien's expected Tc 99m generator production, developed based on supply estimates from the four major medical isotope reactors in Europe and South Africa. The resulting calendar for the U.S., Canada and Latin America extended through December is shown below. NOTE: Daily projections are based on current information and subject to change.

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		
Generator standing orders met with some extra; minimal Tc-99m UD impact							Majority of generator standing orders met but no extra; some Tc-99m UD impact							Shortage to generator standing orders, significant Tc-99m shortage and UD impact						

As additional updates are available, we will share them with you. To learn more about the current Mo 99 supply situation and related information, 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 & General Manager, U.S. Commercial Operations

1. NRU Status Report #21 - AECL provides update on NRU activities. (last accessed September 22, 2009) [http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community\\_Bulletins/090812.htm](http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community_Bulletins/090812.htm)  
2. Maintenance Stop High Flux Reactor Petten (last accessed September 22, 2009) <http://www.nrg.eu/general/nieuws/2009/20090709en.html>