



December 21, 2009

Dear Nuclear Medicine Professional,

As 2009 comes to a close, we thank you for your continued support of Covidien in the past year. Working together, we have made a significant impact in maintaining patient access to critical medical isotopes. The current molybdenum 99 (Mo 99) global shortage will continue well into 2010, and we will remain focused on a multi-faceted approach for immediate, short-term and long-term solutions.

As anticipated, the planned shutdown of the High-Flux Reactor (HFR) in the Netherlands is scheduled to begin on February 19, 2010<sup>1</sup>, and the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor in Canada is expected to be back on-line by the end of first quarter 2010.<sup>2</sup> The BR2 reactor in Belgium will help fill the gap during the overlap of both HFR and NRU being unavailable, but periods of significant shortage will still occur. Based on current reactor supply estimates, a daily projection calendar for the U.S., Canada and Latin America extended through February is shown below. Projections are subject to change.

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

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Week (partial) of March 1						
Week of March 7						
Week of March 14						
Week of March 21						
Week (partial) of March 28						

For the month of March, specific daily clarity on available Mo 99 supply is still being determined. At present, our best estimates are shown at left with a weekly view. As more specific Mo 99 supply updates become available, we will update the calendar to provide daily projections. We continue to work diligently with all potential sources to improve the long-term outlook during the HFR shutdown.

Continued industry-wide adoption of Covidien's successful Tc 99m conservation program is encouraged, taking a more thoughtful approach to unit dose Tc 99m ordering practices. Please also continue to carefully schedule patients, providing greater access to those most critically in need of this vital isotope.

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

Sincerely,

Elaine E. Haynes, RPh  
Vice President & General Manager, U.S. Commercial Operations, Imaging

1. Repair of cooling water pipework High Flux Reactor will commence on 19 February 2010 (accessed 12/15/09) <http://www.nrg.eu/general/nieuws/2009/20091215en.html>  
2. NRU Status Report #34 - AECL provides update on NRU activities (accessed 12/17/09) [http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community\\_Bulletins/091216.htm](http://www.aecl.ca/NewsRoom/Community_Bulletins/091216.htm)