COMMUNICATION FROM THE NMEu EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT) TO THE EUROPEAN OBSERVATORY FOR THE SUPPLY OF RADIOISOTOPES FOR MEDICAL USE

Subject: COVID-19 AND THE GLOBAL SUPPLY OF Mo-99

Brussels, 29 May 2020

The Security of Supply Working Group (SoS WG) Emergency Response Team (ERT) held a teleconference on 28 May 2020 regarding the current status of Mo-99 and other radioisotope production.

Participants noted that demand for Mo-99 and Tc-99m are beginning to return to pre-Covid pandemic levels and that production schedules for Mo-99 and Tc-99m generators are also expected to return to pre-COVID patterns within the month of June. Air transportation options for most geographic regions have also continued to improve, including from South Africa, although it was reported that there are difficulties transporting to Mexico and South America.

NMEu advises that last-minute logistics changes can still create short-term difficulties in supplying medical radioisotopes. Medical radioisotope supply is expected to be sufficient to meet increases in demand. Medical institutions should contact their Tc-99m generator suppliers or radiopharmacies to be informed of the supply situation.

It was decided that there is no longer a need for further ERT meetings at this time as the situation has largely normalized.

Bernard Ponsard,  
Chairman ERT

Ira Goldman,  
Chairman NMEu SoS WG

For the reactors:  
Bernard Ponsard, Chairman ERT, SCK CEN

For the Processors:  
Erich Kollegger and Jean-Guy Dronnet, IRE  
Frank de Lange, Curium

For the Generators:  
Ira Goldman, LMI  
Nassar Hussein, GE Healthcare

For Transport:  
Gilles Degauque, Transrad (Absent – comments by telephone before the meeting)

Rapporteur:  
Jocelyne Baldasso, NMEu