

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

Subject: POSSIBLE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON GLOBAL SUPPLY OF Mo-99

Brussels, 10 March 2020

The Security of Supply Working Group (SoS WG) Emergency Response Team (ERT) held a teleconference on 9 March 2020 to discuss the potential impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on Mo-99 production. All parts of the supply chain including nuclear material transport companies stated that they are carefully monitoring the situation in accordance with national directives and have developed contingency plans to deal with the possibility that quarantines and school closures could result in key staff absences.

A number of options were discussed for increased Mo-99 production or access to additional irradiation capacity in the event that one of the European Mo-99 reactors or processors might be forced to halt operations. It was also noted that the ANSTO Mo-99 manufacturing facility (ANM) is still awaiting regulatory approval to increase production to resume Mo-99 exports. The return of ANM to export production would provide a helpful increase in Mo-99 production capacity in the event that one of the other major Mo-99 production facilities might experience an unscheduled outage due to COVID-19.

The ERT will hold weekly teleconferences on Mondays to continue to monitor the situation and to further discuss and assess possible options for mitigating measures in the event of an unscheduled outage due to COVID-19 impacting the Mo-99 supply chain. Nuclear Medicine Europe will provide regular weekly communication updates.

Bernard Ponsard,
Chairman ERT

Ira Goldman,
Chairman AIPES SoS WG

For the reactors:

Bernard Ponsard, Chairman ERT, SCK-CEN

For the Processors:

Frank DeLange, Curium

Erich Kollegger, IRE

For the Generators:

Ira Goldman, LMI

For Transport

Gilles Degauque, Transrad

By invitation:

Antonis Kalemis

Siemens Healthineers, President NMEu

Rapporteur

Jocelyne Baldasso

