



Urgent Tc-99m Generator Advisory 22 September 2019 10:00 hours

Dear Member

Working Group members were advised by ANSTO on Saturday morning (21 September) that the expected shipment of Mo-99 from NTP (South Africa), that would have been used in generators made today (Sunday) for Monday delivery for most (Tuesday for some), had been cancelled due to lower than anticipated yields from the South African production run out of the Safari reactor. No new Mo-99 was expected to arrive in Australia over the weekend.

The Working Group held an urgent meeting late yesterday with representatives from the NSW Ministry of Health and GMS to discuss the situation for the first few days of the coming week (W/C 23 Sep).

The only Tc-99m that will be available will be that obtained from the generators currently at GMS in the metropolitan areas (i.e., last week's generators) and the small amounts remaining in any generators in regional and rural practices. No generators will be manufactured this weekend and no generators will be distributed to GMS or regional practices in the first part of the coming week.

The Working Group have advised GMS that the priority in metropolitan areas should be to supply radiolabelled products that are to be used in the preparation for subsequent imminent treatments, i.e., radiolabelled colloid for sentinel lymph node studies, radiolabelled MAA for lung scans and SIRT workup, TcO₄⁻ for radiolabelling of RBCs for Gated Heart Pool Scans in chemotherapy, etc. In addition, there is a limited supply of Tl-201 available for urgent myocardial perfusion scans (surgical work-up, etc).

GMS have advised that each capital city radiopharmacy have slightly different levels of available Tc-99m and supply procedures and metropolitan practices will be advised as to what sites will be able to order. A small amount of bulk TcO₄⁻ may be available sufficient for any of the after-hours services provided.

The situation may improve in the second half of the week if the next shipment from NTP South Africa is delivered, which would be manufactured and distributed from around Wednesday. Details of this proposed extra shipment will be released as soon as we are informed.

At this stage ANSTO still does not have any update on when the ANM facility will come back on line.

We will keep you informed as we continue to meet and receive updates.

NB: This document contains advice given by the Working Group of AANMS/ANZSNM/RAINS to GMS to help prioritise distribution of Tc-99m in the current situation.

AANMS / ANZSNM / RAINS