



Association of Imaging Producers & Equipment Suppliers

European Industrial Association for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Healthcare

AIPES ANALYSIS SHOWS CONTINUOUS AND SUFFICIENT CAPACITY FROM LATE 2016 AND THROUGH 2017 FOR A RELIABLE SUPPLY OF MEDICAL RADIOISOTOPES (MO-99)

Brussels, October 10, 2016

The Association of Imaging Producers & Equipment Suppliers (AIPES) members consist of many of the major pharmaceutical and imaging equipment companies in the field of nuclear medicine in Europe. The AIPES Reactor and Isotope Working Group (RIWG) also includes the major Mo-99 industrial processors and the international research reactors involved in the irradiation of enriched uranium targets for the production of the critical medical radioisotope Mo-99.

The RIWG reports to the AIPES Executive Committee and communicates regularly on the status of international production of Mo-99 and other medical radioisotopes to major international stakeholders such as the European Observatory for Medical Radioisotopes and the OECD/NEA High Level Group on Medical Radioisotopes. In the event of any unexpected developments affecting the Mo-99 international supply, the RIWG will activate its Emergency Response Team (ERT) to exchange information and to coordinate compensating measures between the research reactors, processors and other stakeholders with the objective of maintaining secure international supply of Mo-99.

The RIWG met in Brussels, Belgium on September 27 to review and coordinate the late 2016 and proposed 2017 worldwide research reactor schedules. The objective of this meeting was to take steps to ensure the secure and reliable production of Mo-99 by the international supply chain for patients around the world after the NRU reactor in Canada ceases production of medical radioisotopes on October 31, 2016.

The outcome of the meeting is that a number of actions have been effectively undertaken, which will ensure that there will be sufficient reactor capacity available to Mo-99 processors at all times in late 2016 and through 2017 in order to provide for reliable supply of Mo-99. Among these important and consistent actions that the industry have implemented for securing the security of supply post October 2016 - with the support, monitoring and coordination of AIPES and other stakeholders.

For information: admin@aipes-eeig.org

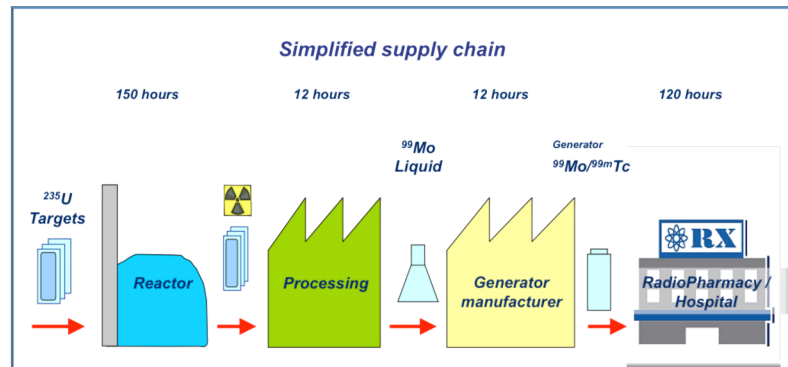
AIPES eeig. – Avenue Louise 65 –B 1050 Brussels, Belgium – www.aipes-eeig.org - +32 2 535 89 45

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Examples of actions undertaken in the supply chain

At the Research Reactor level:

- Technical improvements designed for further increasing the robustness and the reliability of the processes;
- Progresses in the implementation of the principles recommended by the OECD/NEA High Level Group on Medical Radioisotopes, such as the Full Cost Recovery principle and Outage Reserve Capacity principle, have contributed to make these investments feasible;
- Complete renovation of some research reactors, such as the BR2 reactor, Belgium;
- Flexibility in planning the reactor cycles. This is particularly appreciated and recognized for the reactors located in Poland and the Czech Republic;
- Enhanced cooperation between Research Reactors worldwide. This includes Research Reactors located in The Netherlands (HFR), Belgium (BR2), Czech Republic (LVR-15), Poland (Maria), South-Africa (Safari) and Australia (Opal).



At the Processor level:

- Increased capacity in the plants located in The Netherlands and in Belgium;
- Increased capacity in the plant located in Australia;
- Additional investment in capacity and reliability of all plants;
- Excellent cooperation between the major processors which are located in Belgium, the Netherlands, South-Africa and Australia. (Back-up programs).

At the Generator Manufacturer level:

- Diversification of Mo-99 supply sourcing post-October 2016; including long term contracting;
- Continuous focus on reliability, quality and security of supply.