

CUSTOMER STATEMENT Tuesday, 25 June 2019

Statement on nuclear medicine production

On Friday 21 June, contamination was detected on the outside of a container holding 42 millilitres of Mo-99 in the new Mo-99 Manufacturing Facility - ANSTO Nuclear Medicine (ANM). ANM operates separately to the OPAL Reactor and to the Building 23 Health Products manufacturing facility.

Three ANSTO workers were involved and initial indications are that two of these workers received a radiation dose above the statutory limit. The estimated radiation dose will be confirmed in coming weeks.

Comcare and ARPANSA have been informed and ANSTO is undertaking a thorough investigation.

ANSTO's supply of Mo-99 has not been impacted. Upon this incident occurring, Building 54 (ANSTO's previous Mo-99 manufacturing facility) was re-started to secure supply. As a result, the supply of Gentech[®] Tc-99m generators to Australian hospitals and clinics has not been affected.

ANSTO is aiming to have operations at ANM re-start once a full investigation has been completed and the necessary actions for re-commencement have been implemented.

All Gentech generators produced at ANSTO are subject to inspection and safety checks prior to despatch. Prior to being moved off ANSTOs Gentech production line, every generator is individually cleaned and a dose assessment is conducted to ensure no contamination.

Sites utilising Gentech generators should continue to apply standard procedures for the handling and use of the generator.

Contact ANSTO directly on 1800 251 572 for more information.