

CUSTOMER UPDATE

Monday, 8 July 2019

Progress update on Mo-99 production

ANSTO has maintained production of Mo-99 for all Australian customers over the past two weeks despite the temporary shutdown of the ANSTO Nuclear Medicine (ANM) facility following a safety incident.

Following the safety incident, the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) granted ANSTO's former Mo-99 manufacturing facility, known as Building 54, a limited licence to ensure an uninterrupted supply of Gentech[®] Tc-99m generators to all Australian hospitals and clinics during that period.

ANSTO submitted its preliminary investigation report to the ARPANSA, along with a series of mitigations to minimise the risk of a recurrence of such an incident. We will continue to work closely with ARPANSA over the coming weeks to ensure the mitigations established are effective.

On Friday, following a review of ANSTO's submissions regarding the mitigations being implemented, ARPANSA granted ANSTO a limited license to recommence the manufacture of Mo-99 in the ANM facility. Initially, this will allow for two Mo-99 production runs per week to service the requirements of the Australian market only. ANSTO has now recommenced production of Mo-99 in line with the amended license.

The timing of ANM's return to Mo-99 production may still have an impact on a small number of Tc-99m generator deliveries, where a delay of 1-2 days on despatch from ANSTO may occur. If this eventuates, ANSTO will work with the impacted sites to ensure minimal disruption.

ANSTO would like to take this opportunity to thank the Australian nuclear medicine community for their support over this period. Should there be any change to the status of the supply of Mo-99 from ANM within the Australian market, ANSTO will advise key stakeholders and the nuclear medicine community as a matter of priority.

In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact us directly on the details below.

Contact ANSTO directly on 1800 251 572 for more information.

To keep up to date with news on ANSTO's health products and services, you can also join our new community group on LinkedIn:

ANSTO's Australian Nuclear Medicine network