

TC-99m Generator Update – 26 October 2018

It is a priority for our organisation to resume full local production of Tc-99m generators as soon as possible. We apologise for the extended delays.

Overall, local production over the last week at ANSTO and imported generators has largely gone according to plan.

Generator supply update:

Supply of generators up to the OPAL shutdown at the end of October will continue to be made up of a mix of local ANSTO generators and imports from LMI. It is anticipated the current allocation of generators will remain in place over this period.

The total weekly availability of ANSTO manufactured generators is 73 units being produced locally. Over the next week the following Tc-99m generators are available for delivery to Australian Nuclear Medicine sites:

- 73 x ANSTO generators manufactured on Wednesday 24th, Thursday 25th and Sunday 28th October
- LMI generators arriving on 28th October (delivery to sites on 29th and 30th October) – 38 x 5 Ci, 11 x 7.5 Ci and 10 x 15 Ci

The scheduled November shutdown for OPAL will begin on Monday 29th October and be completed on Thursday 8th November.

For the first week impacted by the shutdown (week of Sunday 4th November), we will be able to maintain 90% - 100% supply of generators through a combination of ANSTO and LMI generators.

For the week commencing Sunday November 11th we expect to have enough Mo-99 to supply between 60 and 70 local generators but will not have any imported LMI generators.

Additionally for the week of Sunday November 11th the following option is being worked on with the aim to bolster supply:

- Passenger/commercial airline – this is the most likely means of getting at least 9 generators into AU. These would be spread over a few days with approx. 3 generators on each flight. Airlines and schedules to be confirmed.

The Working Group is currently working through various scenarios for the distribution of generators in the week commencing Sunday November 11th 2018. Due to the expected shortfall of activity, various options are being explored to ensure efficient use of the available Tc-99m. These will be communicated in due course.

For the week starting Sunday 18th November, based on expected yields from the Mo-99 batches on the 13th and the 15th November, we should be able to export to LMI and boost the number of gens to approx. 120 out of 133 (approximately 90%).

In summary the expectations for the three weeks impacted by the OPAL shutdown are below:

Week Commencing Sunday 4 November	Current supply levels maintained for this period
Week commencing Sunday 11 November	50% confirmed with options to import some Curium generators being worked on
Week commencing Sunday 18 November	90% supply expected for this week

A summary of total generators available is located here and is being updated weekly
<https://www.ansto.gov.au/tc-99m-supply-status>

Allocation of generators to hospitals and clinics:

ANSTO met with the Working Group yesterday and has shared information of our supply.

The available generators for the week commencing 22nd October 2018 have been allocated and ANSTO will contact customers directly to confirm these arrangements.

We will also publish the full delivery schedule on our website once it is available for all to see.

Indirect customers of ANSTO who receive their generators through GMS will be notified, as expected, by GMS. ANSTO will work with GMS to ensure that there is free access to this information to assist with scheduling.

Please keep an eye on our website for the details. We will continue to publish these every Thursday or as soon as the distribution schedule is finalised each week.

Thank you again to the members of the Nuclear Medicine Working Group representing **RAINS, ANZSNM, AANMS, NSW Health** and **GMS**, who have worked tirelessly with ANSTO over the last few months to ensuring that the reduced supply of generators gets to those most in need.

We want to hear from you

Please see our ANSTO website and take the opportunity to share your feedback with us on this matter. We are interested in hearing from you and receiving constructive feedback on how we can better support you, our customers, during this difficult time.

If you have any questions, please contact ANSTO directly on 1800 251 572