

High-Level Workshop on Security of Supply of Medical Radioisotopes

Agenda

Date: Thursday 27/04/2023 from 09:30 to 17:30 (Brussels time)

Venue of the meeting: Brussels - NH Berlaymont hotel (Jean Rey room)

Rationale

Medical radioisotopes play a vital role in diagnosing cancer, cardiac conditions and other diseases, and are increasingly used for cancer treatments. The increasing importance of therapeutic radionuclides will continue to push the EU demand and increase the need for EU-based radioisotope full supply chains, in order to maintain EU patient access to vital medical procedures and support the development of new treatments in the fight against cancer.

Russia's military aggression against Ukraine and the subsequent EU restrictive measures emphasized the fragility of the EU supply of some medical radioisotopes. In this frame, the Commission organises a High-Level workshop with institutional, industrial and research stakeholders, aiming to:

- gain insight into the current situation regarding the supply of relevant radionuclides and its adequacy to meet the projected demand in EU Member States;
- assess the EU dependency from foreign suppliers and identify the main EU supply chain vulnerabilities;
- assess the EU industrial readiness, production capacities and investment needs to tackle supply chain challenges and reduce EU dependency from foreign suppliers;
- explore opportunities for collaboration with key global partners in strengthening the supply chains of medical radioisotopes;
- explore possibilities for developing alternative supply routes, reducing foreign dependencies and removing barriers to innovation;
- explore what the EU role could be to support the secure and stable supply of radioisotopes and enriched source materials for the next decade(s).

Participants: European Commission; EU Member States' Health, Energy, Industry and/or Research Authorities, as well as research centres; EU expert groups and professional associations; EU Agencies; production infrastructures, radionuclides and radiopharmaceuticals industrial players, and equipment manufacturers; European companies involved in enrichment, source materials procurement, radioisotopes production and transport; international and third-country organisations.

Expected outcomes: raise awareness of the particular challenges in terms of security of supply of EU medical radioisotopes and reflect on how to proceed forward; start an assessment of the current and projected EU production capacities as well as of the available and future options to mitigate EU dependencies on isotope supply from abroad; assess need for strengthening cooperation with key global partners; determine the necessary actions to secure the supply of most vulnerable isotopes, and the areas where EU-level action would be needed.

09:00 - 09:30 Welcome coffee

09:30 - 10:15 **Introductory session**

Opening remarks:

- Kadri Simson, European Commissioner for Energy
- Acko Ankarberg Johansson, Swedish Minister for Health Care (pre-recorded)
- Ernst Kuipers, Dutch Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport (pre-recorded)
- Jacques Peythieu (Senior Executive Vice President of the Chemistry-Enrichment Business Unit, Orano)
- Erich Kollegger (Chief Executive Officer, IRE)

10:15 - 10:35 Coffee break

10:35 - 12:00 **Session 1: EU supply needs and dependencies from foreign suppliers**

Introduction by Michael Huebel (European Commission, DG ENER)

Speakers: Michael Koole (EANM - European Association of Nuclear Medicine), Frank-André Siebert (ESTRO - European Society Radiation Oncology), Bernard Ponsard (NMEU - Nuclear Medicine Europe), Maria Alcaraz (EMA – European Medicines Agency)

Chair: Isabel De La Mata, DG SANTE

12:00 - 13:15 Lunch buffet

13:15 - 14:30 **Session 2: Supply outlook and initiatives for stable isotopes**

Speakers: Arjan Bos (Urenco stable isotopes), Laurent Bigot (Orano stable isotopes), Daniel Rossetto & Daniel Fontaine (Novartis RLT), Mark Harfensteller (ITM - Isotope Technologies Munich), Jehanne Gillo (US Department of Energy)

Chair: D. Rossetti Di Valdalbero, DG RTD

14:30 - 15:45 **Session 3: Supply outlook and initiatives for fuel and enriched uranium for research reactors producing medical radioisotopes**

Introduction by Agnieszka Kazmierczak (Euratom Supply Agency - ESA)

Speakers: Jean-Noël Lacroix (Orano uranium enrichment), Magnus Mori (Urenco uranium enrichment), Dominique Geslin (CERCA - Framatome), Elena Righi Steele (DG RTD), Joanie Dix (US Department of Energy - National Nuclear Security Administration)

Chair: Agnieszka Kazmierczak, EURATOM Supply Agency

15:45 - 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 - 17:00 **Session 4: The potential role of the EU**

Round table: Wim Oyen (EANM - European Association of Nuclear Medicine), Guy Turquet de Beauregard (NMEU - Nuclear Medicine Europe), Thierry Stora (PRISMAP - medical radioisotope research network), MS representatives: Guillaume Bouyt (FR), Alberto Fernandez (BE), Iva Petříčková (CZ)

Chair: Jan Panek, ENER.D

17:00 - 17:30 **Closing session**

Concluding remarks by M. Garribba, Deputy Director General for Coordination of Euratom policies, DG ENER