

FEATURED

NorthStar to suspend production of Mo-99 radioisotopes

Clint Wolf
Oct 5, 2023



NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes campus at 1800 Gateway Blvd., Beloit, is seen in this aerial photo. NorthStar has gone through several expansions since it first moved to the Gateway Business Park in 2015.

Provided by NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes LLC.

BELOIT — NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes, LLC will suspend manufacturing and commercialization of molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) by the end of 2023, the company announced Thursday.

NorthStar Therapeutics will continue and augment its ongoing work to produce and commercialize two critical radiotherapeutics that are currently in short supply — Actinium-225 (Ac-225) and Copper-67 (Cu67). These are the radioisotopes essential to a large number of radiopharmaceutical products being investigated and used to treat various forms of cancer. NorthStar will also continue the build-out and expansion of its radiopharmaceutical development services, including a Contract Development and Manufacturing Operations (CDMO) group, focused on supporting development and production of radiopharmaceuticals.

**Uncover the benefits of
supporting your local
franchise auto dealers.**



NorthStar will work to redeploy employees displaced by this decision into open and newly created roles in its ongoing operations where possible to augment the important continuing programs there and hopes to identify new assignments for a number of those individuals impacted. The company will also reach out to other employers in its regional and broader industry networks to identify additional opportunities that could be a good match for displaced employees. Those who cannot be redeployed will be offered a separation package including career transition support aligned with industry norms.

“We are very proud of the work that skilled, dedicated NorthStar employees have done to develop and bring domestically produced Mo-99/Tc-99m successfully to market,” said Frank Scholz, Ph.D., President and CEO of NorthStar Medical Technologies, LLC. “But unfortunately, with a global market environment dominated by foreign-government subsidized competitors and new entrants in the wings, and given steadily increasing costs for raw materials, reactor irradiation and processing, we have concluded that the Mo-99 program is no longer sustainable. Accordingly, we’ll dedicate our resources to speeding development and commercialization of two critical radiopharmaceuticals that are sorely needed in multiple ongoing clinical trials and continue to build out and expand the work of our radiopharmaceutical development services. We believe these decisions will result in a stronger organization that will enable NorthStar to do more to help treat cancer and other serious illnesses.”

NorthStar is reaching out to its nuclear pharmacy customers and suppliers to communicate this decision promptly so they may have time to smoothly transition to other partners and assure continued supply of the nuclear imaging agents that are so critical to diagnostic studies for doctors and patients.

Clint Wolf