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MOLYBDENUM-99 PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

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**UPPI LEU Walk: Implementation Strategy on the Verge of a Supply
Chain Converted to non-HEU Medical Isotopes**

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ABSTRACT

Each year the pipeline conversion to non-HEU medical isotopes moves closer to its completion with the removal of HEU from production. UPPI as a leading distributor of non-HEU Tc 99m products has changed the UPPI LEU Walk focus from adoption of non-HEU in its nuclear pharmacies to strategic initiatives to grow nuclear medicine utilization, increase the Qcode added-on reimbursements, and to advocate a change of the overall CMS reimbursement structures vital to sustaining the molecular imaging modality into the future. The upcoming Vizient – UPPI white paper: “Can the SPECT Nuclear Imaging Modality be Sustained?” is one of those initiatives. But other adoption issues we identified are also addressed in the UPPI LEU Walk strategic reach. This presentation provides an update on UPPI activities with hospital supply chain, material management and imaging centers, the ultimate purchasers of non-HEU medical isotopes, in better understanding the impact of Full Cost Recovery and unit dose acquisition costs, promoting conversions to stop the proliferation of HEU in medical isotopes and seeking adequate and appropriate reimbursement to the imaging community.