

ACTION REQUIRED

National Deployment of Pathogen-Reduced Platelets: Fourth Update

Customer Letter # 2023-12

2023-05-16

Dear Colleagues:

Further to Customer Letter [2023-09](#), the below provides a progress update to our national deployment of pathogen-reduced platelets.

| Component name | Abbreviation |
|--|--------------|
| Pooled Platelets Psoralen-treated | PPPT |
| Apheresis Platelets Psoralen-treated | APPT |
| Apheresis Platelets PAS-E (Platelet additive solution) added, not pathogen reduced | AP in PAS |

APPT and AP in PAS require Health Canada approval and are not yet available in Canada

Implementations expected within next 6 months (subject to change):

| Date | Production Site | Component(s) | Time to implementation |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| June 12, 2023 | Ottawa | APPT & AP in PAS | 4 weeks |
| July 10, 2023 | Calgary | PPPT | 8 weeks |
| Sept 18, 2023 | Vancouver | PPPT | 18 weeks |
| Oct 23, 2023 | Winnipeg | APPT & AP in PAS | 23 weeks |
| Nov 20, 2023 | Brampton | PPPT | 27 weeks (6+ months) |

Seven-day shelf-life approval status

As per Customer Letter [2023-10](#), Canadian Blood Services (CBS) received Health Canada approval of 7-day shelf-life for PPPT and was implemented on April 24, 2023.

Circular of Information (COI)

The [Circular of Information](#) has been revised to reflect the extension of shelf life from 5 days to 7 days for PPPT. Pediatric dosing has also been changed.

Action required for all hospitals:

All hospitals must prepare for implementation of these components. Share the implementation updates, component information and resource links (see next paragraph) with physicians/nursing and affected staff in your hospital. Please update LISs with new codes: see [CL 2022-18 Attachment 2](#) and [CL 2022-34 Attachment 1](#). CBS manages a national platelet inventory so **hospitals could receive psoralen-treated platelets even if the local Canadian Blood Services production site has not yet implemented** the pathogen reduction process.

Please visit [Clinical Guide Chapter 19: Pathogen-reduced platelets](#) for educational materials, including a Clinical Guide providing detailed information about pathogen-reduced platelets, [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and narrated videos and accompanying downloadable slide decks.

Previous challenges affecting the supply chain availability of critical supplies required for the pathogen reduction process have improved but may still require future adjustments to our implementation timeline if availability changes. CBS understands that shifting timelines can adversely affect hospital operations and will strive to give accurate timelines and timely notifications.

Estimated implementation timeline by site (*subject to change*):

| Production Site | PPPT implementation timelines | APPT & AP in PAS implementation timelines** |
|--|---|---|
| Ottawa | Implemented January 2022 | June 12, 2023 |
| Dartmouth | Implemented March 20, 2023 Note: Dartmouth provides pooled platelets for the Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick distribution sites | December 11, 2023 |
| Winnipeg | May 15, 2023 | October 23, 2023 |
| Calgary | July 10, 2023 Note: Calgary provides pooled platelets for the Edmonton and Regina distribution sites | January 22, 2024 |
| Vancouver | September 18, 2023 | April 15, 2024 |
| Brampton | November 20, 2023 | May 6, 2024 |
| St. John's NL | See Dartmouth, post 7-day expiry | March 11, 2024 |
| Regina | See Calgary | February 12, 2024 |
| Edmonton | See Calgary | TBA |
| Saint John NB | See Dartmouth | TBA |
| **APPT and AP in PAS require Health Canada approval and are not yet available in Canada | | |

Please share a copy of this customer letter with healthcare professionals at your hospital who might be interested in this information.

This customer letter can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the "Hospital Services" section. If you have questions about this letter, or if you require it in an accessible format, please contact your local hospital liaison specialist.

Sincerely,

David Howe
Director, Supply Chain Process Management