
ACTION REQUIRED**National Deployment of Pathogen-Reduced Platelets: Fifth Update****Customer Letter # 2023-17**

2023-07-10

Dear Colleagues:

Further to Customer Letters [2023-12](#) and [2023-13](#) 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

Canadian Blood Services is happy to report that the production of pathogen reduced, Apheresis Platelets Psoralen-Treated commenced at the Ottawa Site on Monday, June 12, 2023.

Reminder to all hospitals

Canadian Blood Services manages a national platelet inventory, therefore **hospitals could receive psoralen-treated platelets even if the local Canadian Blood Services production site has not yet implemented** the pathogen reduction process. With the addition of APPT to our national inventory, **this particularly impacts our HLA/HPA selected platelets**, which are more likely to be collected outside of the requesting region.

Please update Laboratory Information Systems with new codes: [CL 2022-18 Attachment 2](#) and [CL 2022-34 Attachment 1](#).

All hospitals must prepare for implementation of these platelet components. Kindly share the implementation updates, component information and resource links (see next paragraph) with physicians/nursing and other affected staff in your hospital.

Please visit:

- [Clinical Guide Chapter 19: Pathogen-reduced platelets](#) for educational materials, including a Clinical Guide providing detailed information about these platelet components.
- [FAQ: Information for health professionals on apheresis platelet psoralen-treated \(APPT\) and untreated apheresis platelet in PAS-E | Professional Education \(blood.ca\)](#)
- [FAQ: Information for health professionals on pathogen-reduced platelets \(PPPT\) | Professional Education \(blood.ca\)](#)
- [Canadian Blood Services circular of Information](#)

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

Production Site	PPPT implementation timelines	APPT & AP in PAS implementation timelines
Ottawa	Implemented January 2022	Implemented 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	Implemented 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

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