

BloodNotes

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Improving RBC Utilization

As shared in customer letter [2020-40](#), Canadian Blood Services is collaborating with [Choosing Wisely Canada](#) in support of a pan-Canadian initiative to reduce the unnecessary transfusion of red blood cells.

Entitled [Using Blood Wisely](#), the intention of this campaign is to challenge hospitals to benchmark themselves on appropriate transfusion practices. The focus will be on single unit RBC transfusions and RBC transfusions that have a pre-transfusion hemoglobin of 80 g/L or less.

Hospitals that choose to participate will be invited to conduct a spot audit of recent red blood cell transfusions in their hospital to see how they compare to national appropriateness benchmarks.

All hospitals that meet these benchmarks will be designated a “Using Blood Wisely Hospital” by Choosing Wisely Canada and Canadian Blood Services. More information will be available through your regional blood office and provincial/territorial Choosing Wisely Canada offices.

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