



URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

To: ALL HOSPITAL SITES
From: National Emergency Blood Management Committee (NEBMC)*
Subject: GREEN PHASE ADVISORY

National Inventory Advisory

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| Date and time of issue | 2023-10-19 6:00am (EST) |
| Inventory Availability Phase | Continuation of GREEN PHASE ADVISORY |
| Product(s) | O red blood cells (Rh positive and negative) and A positive red blood cells |
| Description | <p>The Green Phase Advisory declared on June 16, 2023, remains in effect for group O red blood cells (Rh positive and negative) and A-positive red blood cells.</p> <p>Inventory levels are gradually improving but remain volatile. Order delays or cuts may occur for the components under the Green Phase Advisory. The Green Phase Advisory is anticipated to remain in place for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Hospitals which experience challenges in obtaining orders should inform the local transfusion medicine physician on-call or their Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee (PEBMC) and highlight if patient impacts have a significant potential to occur. PEBMCs should in turn be prepared to inform hospitals and provide guidance when possible on where order reductions may be more appropriate should they be unavoidable.</p> <p>Facilities should have established thresholds that would trigger submitting STAT orders to maintain clinical services. Hospitals should only stock up to Green Phase Advisory levels to support the availability of product for other parts of the blood system.</p> |
| Impact on hospitals | <p>Action Required:</p> <p>Until Canadian Blood Services' inventories for group O RBCs recover more completely, it is recommended that hospitals continue to follow best practice for appropriate use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For O-negative RBCs, the NEBMC recommends the best practices outlined in the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products statement for the: Utilization and inventory management of Group O RH(D)-negative red cells. • Additionally, the NEBMC recommends the following best practices for all red blood cell groups, including adherence to patient blood management principles outlined in: Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations related to red blood cell transfusions <p>The NEBMC also recommends the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All blood system stakeholders should continue to actively monitor inventories and work within their respective PEBMCs to decrease inventories where appropriate to mitigate the risk of further order cuts (where needed across the country). |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEBMCs should be prepared to provide guidance to the NEBMC on hospitals in their jurisdiction where order delays or reductions may be better tolerated than others. • Hospitals should continue to provide inventory levels for group O red blood cells (RBCs) by 12:00 noon EST each day. In the absence of reporting during these inventory challenges, cuts to inventory requests may be made inequitably. Hospital inventory is to be reported via the following link: https://myhospital.blood.ca/, or in accordance with usual provincial practices (British Columbia and Manitoba). • Hospitals should confirm their ability to accommodate Héma-Québec components as well as make any process or system updates required to accommodate Héma-Québec components, should they be provided. <p><i>Shipment Index</i> The NEBMC recommends the Shipment Index for group O RBCs be reduced to 15 for O-negative and 10 for O-positive. These targets apply to provinces only (excludes territories) and will be used by PEBMCs to determine how hospital inventory will be allocated in their jurisdictions, to avoid indiscriminate inventory cuts.</p> <p>It is recognized that not all hospitals within a province will be able to reduce inventories due to local circumstances such as size, proximity, programs, and previous action taken to reduce inventory but confirmation with the PEBMC of these plans is recommended.</p> <p>If a hospital is not aware of what steps to take, they are asked to contact their local transfusion medicine physician on-call, their PEBMC, their Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee or their Hospital Liaison Specialist. These targets are not expected to impact the provision of blood for clinical care, but should such instances occur they are to be reported to the PEBMC to bring to the NEBMC's attention.</p> |
| <p>For more information</p> | <p>For additional info, contact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your representative to the Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee 2. Your representative to your Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee 3. Your Hospital Liaison Specialist, Canadian Blood Services |

*The National Emergency Blood Management Committee is comprised of the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products, Provincial Territorial Blood Liaison representatives and key Canadian Blood Services personnel. This group will develop recommendations and provide advice to the P/T Ministries of Health, hospitals and regional health authorities, and Canadian Blood Services to support a consistent and coordinated response to critical blood shortages in Canada.

For information about the National Blood Shortages Plan, please see: <http://www.nacblood.ca/resources/shortages-plan/index.html>

If you require this advisory in an accessible format, please contact your local Canadian Blood Services Hospital Liaison Specialist.