

## MEMO

**TO:** Physicians, Nurses, Midwives and Unit Clerks

**CC:** Wendy Peppel, Director, Manitoba Health, Healthy Living & Seniors

**FROM:** Dr. Debra Lane, Medical Officer, Canadian Blood Services

**DATE:** 27 September 2017

**RE: CMV negative inventory now only for Intrauterine Transfusions**

Starting in October, Canadian Blood Services (CBS) will only perform CMV antibody testing for the sole purpose of providing product for intrauterine transfusions. Winnipeg is one of the five CBS sites that will have CMV seronegative tested products for this sole purpose. Hospitals were advised of the coming change in Customer Letters [2017-22](#) and [2017-36](#).

Requests for CMV seronegative blood products for the clinical management of all other patients will be filled with leukoreduced CMV safe inventory. Extensive research has been done, which has determined that the CMV transmission in the neonate period primarily occurs through breastfeeding. Studies in bone marrow transplant patients comparing leukoreduced and CMV seronegative blood with leukoreduced blood alone showed no significant increase in CMV transmission compared to leukoreduced units alone.

### **Educational Materials**

Here is a compilation of background information and education tools regarding this change in testing strategy that you may find of value.

Video recording of Dr. Jeannie Callum, BA, MD, FRCPC, University of Toronto	<a href="https://youtu.be/Cw746m78X3U">https://youtu.be/Cw746m78X3U</a> (11:04 min)
Dr. Callum's extended version slide deck with audio	<a href="https://youtu.be/rcwYqdwzplc">https://youtu.be/rcwYqdwzplc</a> (25:06 min)
Dr. Callum's extended version slide deck (no audio)	<a href="https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/sites/msi/files/transfusion-transmitted_cytomegalovirus_2017_july.pptx">https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/sites/msi/files/transfusion-transmitted_cytomegalovirus_2017_july.pptx</a>
CBS Professional Education webpage	<a href="https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/en/transfusion/best-practices/use-cytomegalovirus-cmv-seronegative-blood-products">https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/en/transfusion/best-practices/use-cytomegalovirus-cmv-seronegative-blood-products</a>
National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products (NAC) website - references	<a href="http://www.nacblood.ca/resources/guidelines/downloads/cmv_references.pdf">http://www.nacblood.ca/resources/guidelines/downloads/cmv_references.pdf</a>

I can be contacted at 204-789-1079 or [debra.lane@blood.ca](mailto:debra.lane@blood.ca) for questions.

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