MEMO

Date: October 16, 2018

To: Shared Health TM Laboratories

CC: Dr. Amin Kabani, Darcy Heron, Alissa Leforte, Theresa Wiwchar, Lisa Manning, Michelle Brennan, Michelle Tomiuk, Bob Olyarnyk, Hayley Marshall, Pete Chackowsky, Kristine Benedictson, Breanne Batters, Jeff Beresford

From: Dr. Charles Musuka

Re: Blood Product Storage and CAP Accreditation Requirements

We were cognizant of a Canadian Blood Services (CBS) and Hema-Quebec study by Ramirez-Arcos (Transfus Med Hemother 2016;43:396-399) that showed that it was safe for blood to be returned back to inventory 60 minutes after issue. The study resulted in the change of both the Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine (CSTM) and the CSA Z902-15 standards.

With assistance from colleagues from the Microbiology and Chemistry disciplines, we have now corroborated the CBS findings and have validated that blood products can safely be returned to inventory up to 60 minutes after issue.

This memorandum serves to inform you that with immediate effect; blood products that have been out of storage may be safely returned to inventory (up to one hour after issue) provided they pass visual inspection requirements. SOPs will shortly be amended to reflect the new policy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Musuka
Transfusion Medicine Medical Director
Shared Health
New Policy – Effective 18 October 2018

Blood / blood products may be returned to the Blood Bank if they have not been out of a controlled environment for more than 60 minutes from the time of issue.

When would this apply?

1. Transfusion/ product no longer required

2. Patient has pulled out their IV line or it is not patent and you will not be able to get IV restarted and product into patient within the maximum 4 hour time frame blood / blood products must be infused within
Where do I find the “time product is issued by blood bank” documented?

The 60 minutes starts from the time listed on the back of ROT line A: “Visually Inspected and Issued By”