



**URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

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

**National Inventory Advisory**

<b>Date and time of issue</b>	2020-03-31 0600 (EST)
<b>Inventory Availability Phase</b>	<b>GREEN PHASE ADVISORY</b>
<b>Product(s)</b>	<b>ALL Fresh Blood Components and Plasma Protein Products</b>
<b>Description</b>	<p>This is a notice of continuation of the Green Phase Advisory declared March 17, 2020.</p> <p>The impacts of COVID-19 continue to affect blood supply planning at Canadian Blood Services. Inventory of all blood components and products are at Green Phase levels. However, Canadian Blood Services forecasting predicts a potential for shortages given the current pandemic situation. Multi-week forecasting indicates a specific concern regarding the availability of platelets by the week of April 13<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>In consideration of these impacts on the blood supply and the experience of other blood operators pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic, <b>this Green Phase Advisory applies to ALL blood components and products. Due to the dynamic and evolving nature of this situation, the advisory status may be escalated quickly if demand outpaces supply.</b></p> <p>The NEBMC wants to emphasize the importance of healthy individuals continuing to donate. Canadian Blood Services continues to liaise with senior officials in the Public Health Agency of Canada and Ministries of Health in this regard.</p>
<b>Impact on hospitals</b>	<p><b><u>Action Required:</u></b></p> <p><b>Fresh blood components:</b>  Hospitals are asked to ensure the utilization of all blood components follow best practice, with particular attention paid to platelets and O Rh negative red blood cells. It is recommended that all hospitals review and consider strict platelet transfusion criteria and awareness of platelet alternative product options. To decrease demand on cryoprecipitate, the use of fibrinogen concentrate is recommended for treatment of acquired hypofibrinogenemia.</p> <p>All hospitals must provide inventory levels for all blood groups of red blood cells and platelets by 1200 noon EST each day, until further notice. Hospital inventory is to be reported via the Blood Component and Product Disposition system: <a href="https://www.blood.ca/en/hospitals/blood-component-and-product-disposition-system">https://www.blood.ca/en/hospitals/blood-component-and-product-disposition-system</a>, or in accordance with usual provincial practices (British Columbia and Manitoba).</p> <p><b>Plasma protein products:</b>  Provincial and hospital emergency blood management committees are asked to ensure that infusion of IVIg to patients in a hospital setting is considered within essential service</p>

	<p>guidance and provisions.</p> <p>Hospitals are asked to evaluate protocols for home infusion patients picking up product to minimize patient or designate exposure to the hospital environment. Current Canadian Blood Services inventory will allow for <b>a maximum refill volume of 3-months of product to individuals on home infusion therapies</b>. The capacity for blood banks to accommodate these order refills and for patients to store these volumes in their homes must be reviewed within local blood bank facilities. Patients should contact their local blood bank for a product refill when they have 1-month of product remaining.</p> <p>The demand for plasma protein products has increased and the opportunity for the increased volume of product pick-up may not be sustainable over the long term (8-9 months). The plasma protein product inventory is being closely monitored, and this NEBMC directive may require adjustment if demand outpaces supply.</p> <p><b><u>For information:</u></b> The NEBMC has released a statement on convalescent plasma and IVIg for treatment of COVID-19 infection (Attachment 1)</p> <p>A fact sheet on convalescent plasma and IVIg for treatment of COVID-19 in Canada will be available on the the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products website: <a href="http://www.nacblood.ca">www.nacblood.ca</a></p>
<p><b>For more information</b></p>	<p>For additional info, contact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Your Hospital Liaison Specialist, Canadian Blood Services</li> <li>2. Your representative to the Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee</li> <li>3. Your representative to your Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee</li> </ol>

\*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.