



**URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

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

**National Inventory Advisory**

<b>Date and time of issue</b>	2020-05-13 0600 (EST)
<b>Inventory Availability Phase</b>	<b>RECOVERY 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 the continuation of the Recovery Phase Advisory for all fresh blood components and plasma protein products indicating <u>a period of controlled transition to normal demand within hospitals</u>. Careful monitoring of inventories is required as clinical care services increase and given the dynamic and evolving nature of this situation, the advisory status may change quickly if demand outpaces supply.</p> <p>As the health system in each province and territory ‘re-opens’, it is anticipated that the demand for fresh blood components and plasma protein products will increase as hospitals expand clinical care services. However, the impacts of COVID-19 and the uncertainties related to this pandemic continue to affect blood supply planning at Canadian Blood Services (physical distancing and public health measures at donor collection sites). Although inventory of all blood components and products are at Green Phase levels and sufficient to meet current hospital demand, it is imperative for all blood system stakeholders to continue to communicate to ensure this transition phase is careful and controlled. Hospitals must continue to dialogue with provincial operations and blood management committees to ensure a gradual return to baseline services and adjust inventory levels accordingly.</p> <p>The NEBMC will continue to meet and issue notices weekly.</p>
<b>Impact on hospitals</b>	<p><b><u>Action Required:</u></b>  There is continued need for qualitative and quantitative demand intelligence from provinces and hospitals to inform supply planning at Canadian Blood Services. Hospitals are asked to inform their local Hospital Liaison Specialist of this information, especially as it pertains to fresh blood component and plasma protein product utilization and stock inventory level changes at their site(s).</p> <p><b>Fresh blood components:</b>  Hospitals may continue to slowly adjust inventories to green phase targets as clinical services requiring fresh blood components resume and should continue to ensure that utilization of <u>all</u> blood components follow best practices. Increasing inventory for projected clinical demand should be prioritized and balanced against the need for emergency stock, considering inventory management (outdating) and specific blood group requirements.</p>

	<p>Additionally, hospitals are encouraged to continue the transition from cryoprecipitate to fibrinogen concentrate for treatment of acquired hypofibrinogenemia.</p> <p>Given the potential for rapid changes in collections and inventory levels, ongoing monitoring of national blood supply is critical. <b>All hospitals must continue to provide inventory levels for all blood groups of red blood cells and platelets by 1200 noon EST each day, until further notice.</b> 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> To manage long-term immunoglobulin (Ig) supply concerns, Canadian Blood Services will engage with individual hospitals to discuss Ig supply and demand by brand, as necessary.</p> <p>Current Canadian Blood Services inventory continues to allow for a maximum refill volume of 3-months of product to individuals on home infusion therapies. The capacity for hospital transfusion services to accommodate these order refills and for patients to store these volumes in their homes must be reviewed within local facilities. Patients should contact their local hospital transfusion service laboratory for a product refill when they have 1-month of product remaining. 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).</p> <p>To support patients and health systems, Canadian Blood Services has contracted a national courier service that hospital transfusion services may use to deliver home infusion products to patients with risk factors placing them at high risk of COVID-19 infection during this pandemic. Each jurisdiction has been provided with a program information package and has evaluated whether a courier service option is needed in addition to other safety measures (e.g. curbside pickup) that are currently in place with the hospital transfusion service laboratories to mitigate COVID-19 infection risk for patients requiring home infusion products. Further information may be obtained from PT representatives or Provincial Emergency Blood Management committees in each provincial/territorial jurisdiction.</p> <p>The plasma protein product inventory continues to be closely monitored, and this NEBMC directive may require adjustment if demand is predicted to outpace supply.</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.