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To all clinical staff:

**Re: NEW PLATELET COMPONENT**

On January 17th, 2022, Canadian Blood Services will be implementing a new platelet component – pathogen reduced platelets in platelet additive solution. We will continue to receive the existing platelet components at the same time during the gradual transition across Canada (i.e., buffy-coat non-pathogen reduced platelets and apheresis platelets).

There are some key differences that you must know:

1. The platelet bags look different (container is a new safer plastic that is stiffer and may have visible scratches)
2. The volume is lower (180 mL vs. 320 mL) and product is more concentrated\*
3. The product looks clearer (some of the plasma is replaced with an electrolyte solution)
4. The product may have small agglutinates (this can be ignored)
5. The product is made from 7 blood donors (vs. current 4 donors)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jeannie Callum, MD, FRCPC

Director of Transfusion Medicine

\*Note for clinical team members transfusing platelets to neonates and children: the volume equivalent is 8 mL/kg (vs. current 10-15 ml/kg).