



URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

To: ALL HOSPITAL SITES
From: National Emergency Blood Management Committee*
Subject: AMBER PHASE ADVISORY UPDATE

National Inventory SHORTAGE Advisory Update

Date and time of issue	2019-05-17 15:00 (EDT)	
Inventory Availability Phase	AMBER PHASE	
Product(s)	Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIg)	
Description	<p>The following is an update to the Amber Advisory issued on 2019-05-08.</p> <p>As previously communicated, Canadian Blood Services is currently experiencing short supply of SCIg (Cuvitru®), especially larger vial sizes. Canadian Blood Services is expected to receive additional inventory from three SCIg suppliers (CSL Behring, Octapharma and Takeda) over the next few weeks, but current product availability is limited. As a result, it is expected that the current supply restrictions may remain in effect until September.</p>	
Impact on hospitals	<p>An immunology and neurology physician and patient working group has developed recommendations to reduce demand, see below. The NEBMC has endorsed these recommendations and encourages health care providers to adhere to them.</p> <p>For patients, currently on SCIg (Cuvitru®): <i>We recommend that the currently treated patients continue with NO changes to their current access to SCIg. Patients should be given no more than a 3 months' supply. Given the limitation in access to larger vial sizes (4g and 8g), we recommend this supply should be preferentially available to neurology patients who require higher dosage.</i></p> <p>For new patients, not currently on SCIg: <i>We recommend holding SCIg starts for patients who require SCIg except where SCIg is the only option deemed appropriate for that patient, (e.g. patients with urgent clinical need and poor venous access), until further notice and supply has been restored. We ask that treaters consult with the appropriate group (CIPO-GBS/CIDP) if/when these situations arise. Supply of IVIg is not currently affected but there is limited capacity on outpatient units to treat patients with IVIg.</i></p>	
	<p>CIPO National 1-888-607-2476 info@cipo.ca</p>	<p>GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada 1-647-560-6842 info@gbscidp.ca</p>
For more information	<p>For additional info, contact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your Hospital Liaison Specialist, Canadian Blood Services 2. Your representative to the National Advisory Committee on Blood & Blood Products 3. Your representative to the Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee 4. Your representative to your Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee 	

*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: <https://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.