



URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

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

National Inventory Advisory

Date and time of issue	2023-11-09 9:00am (EST)
Inventory Availability Phase	Continuation of GREEN PHASE ADVISORY
Product(s)	O red blood cells (Rh positive and negative) and A positive red blood cells (RBCs)
Description	<p>The Green Phase Advisory declared on June 16, 2023, remains in effect for group O RBCs (Rh positive and negative) and A positive RBCs.</p> <p>Order delays or cuts, particularly for O positive RBCs, may occur over the coming days. Hospitals which experience challenges in obtaining orders should inform the local transfusion medicine physician on-call or their Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee (PEBMC) and highlight if patient impacts have a potential to occur.</p> <p>Prior to the long weekend, facilities should have established thresholds that would trigger submitting STAT orders to maintain clinical services and only stock up to Green Phase Advisory levels to support the availability of product for other parts of the blood system.</p> <p>For awareness, Canadian Blood Services will be notifying hospitals this week about routine maintenance work by one of their communication vendors starting at 00:01 EST on November 13, 2023. While the planned and controlled maintenance is unrelated to the current Green Phase Advisory and is not expected to impact inventory; Canadian Blood Services is ensuring appropriate contingency plans are in place.</p>
Impact on hospitals	<p>Action Required:</p> <p>Until Canadian Blood Services' inventories for O RBCs and A positive RBCs recover, it is recommended that hospitals continue to follow best practice for appropriate use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For O negative RBCs, the NEBMC recommends the best practices outlined in the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products statement for the: Utilization and inventory management of Group O RH(D) negative red cells. Additionally, the NEBMC recommends the following best practices for all RBC groups, including adherence to patient blood management principles outlined in: Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations related to RBC transfusions <p><i>Shipment Index for RBCs</i></p> <p>The NEBMC recommends the Shipment Index for group O RBCs be reduced to 15 for O negative and 10 for O positive. These targets apply to provinces only (excludes territories) and will be used by PEBMCs to determine how hospital inventory will be allocated in their jurisdictions, to avoid indiscriminate inventory cuts. Not all hospitals will</p>

	<p>be able to reduce inventories due to local circumstances such as size, proximity, programs, and previous action taken to reduce inventory. It is recommended hospitals confirm with their PEBMCs.</p> <p>The NEBMC also recommends the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All blood system stakeholders should continue to actively monitor inventories and work within their respective PEBMCs to decrease inventories where appropriate to mitigate the risk of further order cuts (where needed across the country). • PEBMCs should be prepared to provide guidance to the NEBMC on hospitals in their jurisdiction where order delays or reductions may be better tolerated than others. • Hospitals should continue to provide inventory levels for group O RBCs and A positive RBCs by 12:00 noon EST each day. In the absence of reporting during these inventory challenges, cuts to inventory requests may be made inequitably. Hospital inventory is to be reported via the following link: https://myhospital.blood.ca/, or in accordance with usual provincial practices (British Columbia and Manitoba). • Hospitals should confirm their ability to accommodate Héma-Québec components as well as make any process or system updates required to accommodate Héma-Québec components, should they be provided. <p>If a hospital is not aware of what steps to take, they are asked to contact their local transfusion medicine physician on-call, their PEBMC, their Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee or their Hospital Liaison Specialist.</p>
<p>For more information</p>	<p>For additional info, contact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your representative to the Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee 2. Your representative to your Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee 3. Your Hospital Liaison Specialist, Canadian Blood Services

*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.