

DATE:	2021 November 10
TO:	All Clinical staff at Grande Prairie and Area Clinical Facilities
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories Transfusion and Transplantation Medicine Program
RE:	Impacts of the Move to Grande Prairie Regional Hospital on Transfusion Medicine Services

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- With the opening of the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital (GPRH) on December 4th, 2021 there will be impacts on the provision of transfusion medicine services for patients and clinicians at the QEII hospital, in the city of Grande Prairie and in the surrounding communities while the laboratory transitions from QEII to its new site at the GPRH.
- **All transfusion activity, including testing, for both inpatient and outpatient transfusions should be limited to only urgent and emergent transfusions between 1200h December 3rd to 0700h December 6th.**
 - This also applies to sites that refer all their Transfusion medicine testing to Grande Prairie including Beaverlodge, Fairview, Grimshaw, Manning, McLennan, Spirit River, Valleyview, Fox Creek and Grande Cache.
 - For Peace River and High Prairie, who are capable of doing primary Transfusion medicine testing on site, regular transfusion activity can proceed. However, any patient with a history of antibodies or a new positive antibody screen will have delays in the provision of crossmatch compatible units since that would require referral to Grande Prairie.
 - There will not be capacity for Home use patients to pick up their plasma protein products between December 3rd and December 7th for any of the above facilities.
- **After 0700 on December 4th**, requests for blood components or products for any patient at the QEII facility should be placed by phone call (780-538-7413) not using Prepare orders in the Connect Care system.
- **After 0600h on December 4th**, blood inventory and transfusion testing will be primarily held at the GPRH facility. Emergency stock unmatched red cells, prothrombin complex concentrate and fibrinogen concentrate will be retained at the QEII. Triage of all QEII requests will occur and if required, other components, crossmatched units or restock products will be issued from the GPRH and couriered to the QEII patient care unit.
- **After 0600h on December 4th**, routine requests for blood components or products for any patient at the GPRH facility can be placed using Connect Care or by phoning the GPRH transfusion laboratory at 825-412-4083 for emergent or MHP situations.
- Any inpatient being moved from QEII who is banded with a Transfusion Service Identification Number (TSIN) should not have their TSIN band removed when new admission bands are being applied at the GPRH unless there has been confirmation that the Type and Screen has expired.



- If a patient is in the process of being transfused while being transferred from the QEII to GPRH the Connect Care inter-facility transport documentation process should be used.

Why this is important

- Awareness of the many changes will help clinicians and front line staff care for patients who need transfusion support.

Action required

- Ensure that you and your staff are aware of the information above to facilitate a smooth transition during the GPRH move window. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Brent Mendez at 587-202-3750 or allen.mendez@aplabs.ca , Dr. Susan Nahirniak at 780-218-5041 or susan.nahirniak@aplabs.ca or your local laboratory.

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by

- Dr. Brent Mendez, Regional Site Chief, APL QEII/GPRH
- Dr. Susan Nahirniak, Interim Medical Director, APL Transfusion and Transplantation Medicine
- Dr. Michael Mengel, Sector Medical Director, APL North Sector