Alberta Health Services

Laboratory Bulletin

Date: May 25, 2015
To: All AHS Physicians, All AHS Nurses, Laboratory leadership
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: New Transfusion Medicine Policy and Procedures announcement

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

The new Transfusion of Blood Components and Products Policy and Procedures (Adult Acute and Pediatric/ Neonate Acute) was developed to establish a standard for transfusion, and to ensure the safe handling of blood components and products, within Alberta Health Services. The policy and procedures were approved March 23, 2015 and are **effective June 1, 2015.**

The policy and procedures can be found on Insite on the Transfusion of Blood Components and Products page:

http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/12305.asp

A toolkit of learning resources has been developed to complement this new policy suite and to support educators and managers with implementation. To access these, and other related provincial or zone specific resources, please click on the Resources and Education link on the Transfusion of Blood Components and Products page.

Why this is important:

The new policy suite for the Transfusion of Blood Components and Products, replacing existing policy and procedures, will allow all transfusion recipients to be treated using the most current practices and will give transfusionists a common guidance toward which training and competency can be directed. The new suite of documents was developed by a collaborative team consisting of transfusion medicine specialists, policy consultants, nursing representatives, clinical nurse educators and medical practitioners.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Contact your local Transfusion Safety Coordinator, refer to the Transfusion Medicine web page (www.albertahealthservices.ca/10380.asp) or send inquiries to Transfusion.SafetyTeam@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:
Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical / Scientific Director, AHS Laboratory Services