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TM08-04.004 CMV Negative Blood Products Policy

APPLICABILITY

Compliance with this document is required by all Alberta Precision Laboratories Ltd. (APL) employees, medical staff, students, and other persons acting on behalf of APL (including contracted service providers as necessary).

PURPOSE

This policy provides direction for the appropriate selection of cytomegalovirus (CMV) seronegative (aka CMV negative) blood products.

BACKGROUND

CMV safe and CMV seronegative products are considered equivalent. All blood products produced by CBS are leukoreduced pre-storage, with the exception of granulocytes, which is an effective method of removing CMV.. APL hospital transfusion services do not maintain a stock inventory of CMV seronegative blood products.

DEFINITIONS

Blood Products	The therapeutic parts of blood used for transfusion, namely, packed red blood cells, plasma, fresh frozen plasma, platelets and cryoprecipitate. Referred to as blood components in the AHS Transfusion of Blood Components and Blood Products Policy. Use of Blood Products in this document is based on Connect Care terminology.
CMV Seronegative products	Blood products collected from a donor without detectable IgG or IgM CMV antibodies.
CMV Safe products	Blood products that have been leukoreduced pre-storage or treated by pathogen inactivation methods, effectively removing latent CMV from the product.

POLICY

1. CMV safe and CMV negative blood products are considered equivalent.
2. Requests for CMV negative blood products will automatically be substituted with CMV safe blood products.

REFERENCES

National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products. NAC Recommendation: Transfusion and Cytomegalovirus in the Blood System Supported by Canadian Blood Services. 17 JUL 2025. [accessed 22JUL25] https://nacblood.ca/sites/default/files/2025-07/2025-07-17%20NAC%20CMV%20Recommendation_0.pdf

CBS. Further Information – Changes to the Provision of CMV Seronegative Blood Products. CL 2017-36. 6Sept17. [accessed 22JUL25] https://www.blood.ca/sites/default/files/CL_2017-36.pdf