

DATE:	13 October 2026
TO:	Physician and Nursing Staff, All Zones
FROM:	APL Transfusion Medicine (TM)
RE:	Transfusion Medicine Order Set Changes

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Several changes are coming in November to all Transfusion Medicine Order Sets, Ambulatory Smart Sets and Therapy Plans to:
 - remove redundant communication orders that are covered by policy
 - enhance links to clinical guidance
 - revise indications to streamline ordering while maintaining compliance with national appropriateness criteria
 - remove components and component modifications that are no longer available in Alberta
 - provide additional options for emergency medications or medication routes
- Prescribers will need to be aware of these changes to ensure that they update any personalized orders that they may have created.**

Background

- The cross departmental Transfusion Medicine order sets, smart sets and therapy plans have been undergoing significant review with the following changes launching with the fall EPIC upgrade to streamline updating of personalized orders. Please refer to the Connect Care Blood Administration Guide Quick Start Guide (search CC1945 on Insite) for more details after the changes have been implemented. The changes are currently available for viewing in TST.
- Elements being removed from the orders:
 - The nursing communication orders that align with policy (PS-59) will be removed (e.g. Verify Consent and Transfusion monitoring) but additional guidance and links to acute transfusion reaction processes and transfusion reaction investigation orders have been improved.
 - Cryoprecipitate orders will be removed as the product is no longer available.
 - The ability to request further concentrated, washed or IgA depleted blood components will be removed. In rare clinical situations where these may be clinically appropriate, consultation with a Transfusion Medicine physician will be required.
 - The ability to order two units of platelets in a single request will no longer be available.
- Revisions to the orders:
 - Within Prepare and Transfuse orders, the indication dropdowns for blood components (e.g. red cells, platelets, plasma) and plasma protein products (e.g. IVIG, prothrombin complex concentrate, fibrinogen) have been reorganized to better align with the patient's clinical presentation, to capture clinical context information that would alter screening processes (e.g. acute cardiac syndrome within 30 days, presence of anticoagulant therapy) and to incorporate approved recommendations for the use of the shared national blood inventory.



- Transfusion Medicine administration rates have been updated to allow for mL/h.
 - Additional administration routes for transfusion pre-medications.
- Additions to the orders:
 - The new orders will link to guidance around the need for irradiation of cellular blood components and allow capture of the clinical indication for requests to improve patient safety.
 - Addition of emergency medication panels to the adult transfusion smart set and therapy plan orders.
 - Addition of “CBC no diff” as a faster post transfusion monitoring lab.

Action Required

- **Prescribers will need to be aware of these changes to ensure that they update any personalized orders that they may have created.**

Effective Date 19th November 2026

Questions/Concerns

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- APL Transfusion Safety Officers Transfusion.SafetyTeam@albertaprecisionlabs.ca)

Approved by

- Dr. Susan Nahirniak, Medical Director, APL Transfusion & Transplantation Medicine Program