

DATE:	2021 May 17
TO:	Calgary Zone: Healthcare Professionals Responsible for Blood Administration
FROM:	Transfusion Medicine (TM), Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)
RE:	Pilot Study of Tamper Evident Seals on Blood Transport Boxes

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Key Message

- On **June 1, 2021**, a three-month pilot study of blood component transport boxes with tamper-evident seals will commence.

How this will impact you

- Patient information for clerical check will be on the exterior of the transport box. Initial clerical check is to be done using this information and, again, on the physical units at the time of transfusion. Contents of the transport box will be listed and an indication will be made if blood is uncrossmatched.
- Data around potential waste will be collected and regularly shared with stakeholders for the duration of the pilot.

Background

- Currently, blood components cannot be tracked after leaving TM, which is in violation of Health Canada requirements.
- Data will be gathered on the number of blood components that will be discarded after being returned in transport boxes with broken seals.
- During the pilot, blood components returned in transport boxes with broken seals will NOT be discarded by TM. Following the pilot, disposal will be required.
- The date for commencement of discarding blood components returned in transport boxes with broken seals is anticipated to be in autumn of 2021 and will be communicated in a timely manner.

Action Required

- Do not remove tamper-evident seals until transfusion is imminent.
- Refer to patient information provided on the transport box exterior for initial clerical check.
- Only order the number of products that is anticipated to be transfused.
- Use all products out of the current box before opening another.

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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