

DATE:	2022 September 19
TO:	North Zone Rural Hospital Nursing Staff, Unit Clerks, Health Care Aides, and Laboratory Staff
FROM:	Transfusion Medicine Safety – Allahna Elahie Transfusion Safety Officer North Sector Areas 1, 2, 3
RE:	Training for Handling and Transporting Blood Components and Products

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Effective January 2, 2023, the laboratory will start enforcing evidence of training for the handling of blood components and products issued from the Transfusion Medicine Laboratory.
- Initial training is required for all hospital staff handling blood components and products, which includes nurses, unit clerks, health care aides, emergency department attendants and porters.

Background

- The requirement for handling of blood components and products training went into effect when the [Transfusion of Blood Components and Products Policy](#) went into effect on February 15, 2022.
- Frequency of the education requirements will occur according to the [Blood Transfusion Education Requirements Decision Tool](#)

How this will impact you

- Hospital staff picking up blood components or products from the Laboratory will need to have read and signed the [External Resource: The Handling of Blood Components and Products](#) and have a sticker of a blood drop labelled with the current year and colour.
- For the remainder of the 2022 calendar year and the entire 2023 calendar year, a blue blood drop sticker will be utilized.
- In emergency situations, if staff present to the Laboratory for blood components or products without the most current blood drop, product will not be denied.

Action Required

- North Zone Rural Clinical Nurse Educators (CNEs) and clinical managers have been delivering the blood transport education and training to staff in preparation for the January 2, 2023 go live date.
- When the blood transporter presents to the Laboratory to pick up blood without a current blood drop sticker, the Laboratory staff will provide the [External Resource: The Handling of Blood Components and Products](#) and a 2023 blood drop sticker.
- The blood transporter is required to read and sign the resource and place the blood drop sticker on their identification badge.
- The Laboratory will use the blood drop sticker as a visual indicator that the blood transporter has been trained on handling blood components and products for the calendar year.
- The blood transporters are required to retain the signed external resource document for training records and give it to their CNE. It is not to be given back to the Laboratory.
- Blood transporters are to speak with the onsite nursing manager, CNE or onsite laboratory staff if there are questions.
- Laboratory staff are to access and view the education video on TRACCESS or DynaLEARN, whichever is applicable.



Effective

- January 2, 2023

Questions/Concerns

- Allahna Elahie, Transfusion Safety Officer North Sector Areas 1, 2, 3, Allahna.Elahie@aplabs.ca

Approved by

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