

DATE:	10 July 2023
TO:	Provincial – Acute Care sites, Physicians and Nurse Practitioners.
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) Transfusion and Transplantation Medicine Program (TTM)
RE:	Transfusion Medicine Reminder of Upcoming Inventory Changes to Plasma and Platelets

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Key Messages

- Solvent detergent plasma (S/D plasma) and pooled platelets psoralen treated (PPPT) are pathogen reduced and will soon comprise the majority of the Alberta inventory for plasma and platelets, respectively.
- Pathogen reduced platelets are equivalent to irradiated platelets for patients that have an indication for irradiated cellular blood components. These platelets however cannot be further manipulated so volume reduction/concentration and/or washing of platelets can no longer be performed.
 - Platelet aliquots for neonatal/pediatric patients will have limited availability depending on the stock of untreated apheresis platelets with the appropriate blood group. Caution is necessary to ensure that the administered volume is adjusted to the requested volume.
- S/D plasma requires a 30-minute thaw time, therefore this should be taken into account when ordering plasma. Small inventories of thawed plasma will be available at select facilities that typically see urgent plasma requests.

Implementation Dates

Effective Immediately –S/D plasma may be automatically substituted for plasma orders.
July 10, 2023 – PPPT will become available in Alberta.

How this will impact you

- Irradiated platelet orders will be filled with PPPT.
- Patients will not be given volume reduced platelets.
- Prescribers do not need to specify a platelet or plasma type in their orders. The most appropriate unit available for your patient will be provided.
- Lower increments and increased transfusion requirements may be noted for platelets.
- Increased thawing time may be anticipated for S/D plasma in facilities that do not stock thawed plasma.

Action Required

1. Prescribers should use current platelet and plasma orders. The transfusion service will provide the most appropriate type of component for the indication based on site inventory.
2. Prescribers should be familiar with Provincial Platelet and Plasma monographs located at [Platelets \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/platelets) or [Plasma \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/plasma).
3. Ensure that the indication for transfusion is communicated with any orders for platelets or plasma.
 - a) Be prepared to consult Transfusion Medicine physician on call for dosing, modifications or indications that do not meet approved criteria to ensure the appropriate alternative is provided and/or the correct information is placed in the patient transfusion medicine record.



Background

- For additional background information please refer to previous bulletins on [pathogen reduced platelets](#) and [changes to provincial plasma inventory](#). Additional resources are also available on national forums more detail is required (www.nacblood.ca or www.blood.ca)

Questions/Concerns

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Approved by

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