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**Date:** June 15, 2020  
**To:** Calgary Zone: Day Medicine Units, TBCC Outpatient Units  
**From:** Dr. Davinder Sidhu, Section Chief, Transfusion Medicine, South Sector  
**Re:** Monitoring Patients for Hemolysis Post-IVIG Infusion

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**Key Message:**

- Effective **June 15, 2020**, Transfusion Medicine will discontinue Post-IVIG Hemolysis Screening for patients receiving IVIG therapy.

**Background:**

- Hemolysis is a known side effect of IVIG infusions due to the ABO antibodies found in plasma. However, since the implementation of monitoring of patients on IVIG therapy in the Calgary Zone, very few cases of hemolysis have been identified.
- In our experience, less than 0.2% of the total amount of IVIG transfused was associated with delayed hemolytic events detected with the current screening protocol. The majority of cases are mild.
- Patients with severe cases either presented to ER or reported symptoms to the Day Medicine Unit prior to post-IVIG screening.

**Action Required:**

- Physicians prescribing IVIG will be responsible for monitoring their patients for signs of hemolysis.
- If not available prior to IVIG infusion, prescribers should order ABO/Rh, as A and AB patients are at greater risk for hemolysis and should be more closely monitored.

**Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:**

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**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:**

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