



Date: June 15, 2020
To: Lethbridge and Area and Medicine Hat and Area Physicians and Nursing staff
Lethbridge and Area and Medicine Hat and Area Laboratory Staff
From: Transfusion Medicine Laboratory Pathologists, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat
Re: Use of Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC)

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- **Effective July 1, 2020** Transfusion Medicine staff will recommend Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC) in place of Cryoprecipitate for Adult patients.
- There will be no changes for Neonate/Pediatric patients.

Why this is important:

- Adult Cryoprecipitate order requests will be reviewed by Transfusion Medicine and based on approved established criteria met will recommend Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC) instead. Details will be communicated to ordering physician or patient location.
- Suitable dosing appropriate to patient's diagnosis/clinical situation and fibrinogen level will be recommended. For physician orders that do not fall in the approved dose, Transfusion Medicine Pathologist will be consulted.
- Pre-infusion Fibrinogen level is required and must be tested within 2 hours of request.
- Post-infusion Fibrinogen level is required to determine efficacy.

Background:

- The National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products (NAC) has developed national guidelines for the use of Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC) in clinical situations.
- NAC guidelines state that Fibrinogen replacement plays an important role in management of massive bleeding post cardiac surgery, trauma and in obstetrical hemorrhage, however there is still uncertainty as to the optimal fibrinogen replacement product and dose.
- Standardizing with APL Calgary Transfusion Medicine who has almost entirely replaced Cryoprecipitate usage with Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC); benefits include more accurate and consistent dosing, rapid provision and administration, smaller volume for infusion and pathogen inactivation.

Action Required:

- Physicians must order pre and post-infusion fibrinogen levels when requesting Cryoprecipitate or Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC).
- Cryoprecipitate order will be cancelled and Fibrinogen Concentrate (FC) ordered in situations where FC has been recommended.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Dr. Barbara Popma, Transfusion Medicine Pathologist, Chinook Regional Hospital, 403-388-6153
- Dr. Spencer Paulson, Transfusion Medicine Pathologist, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital, 403-528-8149

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- Michael Greeff, MD, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief, Chinook Regional Hospital
- Julio Silva, MD, Regional Laboratory Medicine Site Chief, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital