

Date: March 20, 2015
To: South Zone West Physicians, Nurses, Porters, and Transfusion Medicine Laboratory
From: AHS Laboratory Services South Zone – Transfusion Medicine
Re: Transfusion Medicine Practice Changes

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Key Messages:

- South Zone West Transfusion Medicine is implementing a few changes to documentation for blood component and product issue from the laboratory.
- **The following changes are effective March 23, 2015.**
 - The *Transfusion Pick-up Slip* (stores # 0006973) is required for each issue of blood components and products in all sites in South Zone. The pick-up slip has been revised, and must be complete with patient demographics (label acceptable), the type and quantity of blood component/product being issued.
 - The requisition will no longer be sent out by Transfusion Medicine / Laboratory, and will no longer be used for blood component/product issue.
 - It is no longer necessary to return red blood cell segments and crossmatch cards to Transfusion Medicine/Laboratory. The yellow copy of the Issue/Administration form must still be returned.

Why this is important:

- These changes help reduce laboratory generated paperwork on the patient chart and support standardization and streamlining of the issue process in South Zone.
- These changes also align South Zone with the new provincial *Transfusion of Blood Components and Products* policy.
- Additional resources are available on the Provincial Transfusion Medicine Resource page www.albertahealthservices.ca/10380.asp and the South Zone (West) IV/Blood Administration Manual.

Action Required:

- Staff in all sites must complete and present with a *Transfusion Pick-Up Slip* whenever blood components or products are issued. This includes after-hours issue at rural sites.
- Staff should become familiar with Provincial Transfusion of Blood Components and Products Policy, Procedures, and associated resource documents at www.albertahealthservices.ca/10380.asp

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Cathy Davies, Transfusion Medicine Tech III, Chinook Regional Hospital
Dr D. Lyon, Transfusion Medicine consulting pathologist, South Zone
Konra Mueller, Transfusion Safety Tech II, South Zone

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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Dorothy Ward, South Zone Laboratory Director