

Date: May 31, 2016
To: South Zone West Rural Nurses and Laboratory Staff, CRH Transfusion Medicine
From: AHS Laboratory Services – South Zone
Re: Ordering Blood Components and Products in Nurse Order Entry

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Key Messages:

- Currently, rural hospitals in South Zone West maintain blood component and product inventory and document Issue information on a paper Logbook. This requires staff at Chinook Regional Hospital Transfusion Medicine to back-enter the product order, Issue details, and transfusion information.
- Beginning May-June 2016, laboratories in South Zone West rural hospitals will begin issuing blood components and products directly in Meditech during laboratory hours, which will standardize the process with other rural hospitals in the province.
- Nursing departments will be required to order all blood components and products in the Nurse Order Entry module in Meditech prior to issuing those products from the laboratory.
- The previous paper logbook will remain available to facilitate issuing of blood components and products outside laboratory hours, when laboratory staff are not available, and in downtime situations.

Why this is important:

- Issuing blood components directly in Meditech:
 - Improves patient safety by preventing the issue of incompatible or otherwise unsuitable blood components
 - Reduces the need for handwritten issue documentation.
 - Reduced re-work and errors caused by back-entry of manual documentation by off-site staff
 - Allows for real-time monitoring of blood component and product inventory in rural sites

Action Required:

- All sites should begin ordering all blood components and products in Nurse Order Entry as soon as possible. Following on-site implementation, laboratory staff will not be able to issue products that have not been ordered.
- On-site training will occur between May 25 and June 13. There will be the opportunity for lab and nursing staff to practice issuing and ask questions.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Konra Mueller, South Zone Transfusion Safety Tech II
- Cathy Davies, Chinook Regional Hospital Transfusion Medicine Tech III
- Dr. David Lyon, Transfusion Medicine Pathologist

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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