



Date: February 10, 2020
To: South Zone Nursing Staff (Medicine Hat and Area, Lethbridge and Area)
South Zone Laboratory Staff (Medicine Hat and Area, Lethbridge and Area)
South Zone Porter Staff (Medicine Hat and Area, Lethbridge and Area)
From: Transfusion Medicine Safety – Karen Blasetti South Zone TSO
Re: The Training of Handling Blood Components and Products for Transfusion Medicine-V2

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message:

- Effective January 1, 2020, the laboratory has developed a program for health care professionals who handle blood components and products with basic knowledge on the handling, from picking-up to the transportation to care area.
- Initial and annual training is required for all health care professionals handling blood components and products.

Why this is important:

- To ensure blood products and components are safely transported to the care area of the patient before administration.

Action Required:

- When a health care professionals report to the Laboratory to pick up blood components or products for the first time of the new calendar year, the laboratory staff will provide the *External Resource: The Handling of Blood Components and Products* and a sticker of a blood drop labeled with the current year and colour.
- Health care professionals are required to read and sign the resource and place the blood drop sticker on their identification tag.
- Laboratory will use the sticker as visual indicator that health care professionals have been trained on handling blood components and products for the calendar year.
- Health care professionals are required to retain the signed external resource document for training records. It is **not** to be given back to the Laboratory.
- Health care professionals are to speak with the onsite nursing manager or onsite laboratory staff if there are questions.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Karen Blasetti – South Zone Transfusion Safety Officer, Karen.Blasetti@aplabs.ca, 403 502 8648 ext. 2272

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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