

**Date:** January 13, 2015  
**To:** South Zone East 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 East Transfusion Medicine is implementing a few changes to documentation for blood component and product issue from the laboratory.
- These changes support implementation of eDOC by eliminating Transfusion Medicine generated paperwork on the patient chart.
- The changes also align South Zone with a new provincial clinical policy and associated procedures, *Transfusion of Blood Components and Products* which has been drafted and is pending approval.
- Additional resources are available on the new Provincial Transfusion Medicine Resource page [www.albertahealthservices.ca/10380.asp](http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/10380.asp)

### Why this is important:

- **The following changes are effective January 19, 2015.**
  - The *Transfusion Pick-up Slip* (stores # 1550100) has been revised. Previously, not all sites in South Zone were using this form. To comply with accreditation standards and standardize transfusion documentation, the *Pick-up Slip* is now required for issue of blood components and products in all sites in South Zone.
  - The issue form has been discontinued and will no longer accompany units issued from Transfusion Medicine / Laboratory. Bedside checks are to be performed between the blood component/product tag and the patient identification band.
  - The requisition will no longer be returned to the patient's chart for filing. Transfusion Medicine will retain and discard the requisition according to the AHS Record Retention Schedule.
  - The Provincial Transfusion Policy requires return of transfusion documentation to the Transfusion Medicine Laboratory. This will be accomplished electronically via the eDOC rollout.

### Action Required:

- Staff presenting to Transfusion Medicine / Laboratory must complete and present a Transfusion Pick Up Slip whenever blood components or products are issued. This includes after-hours issue.
- Staff initiating the transfusion of blood components and products must perform pre-transfusion identification checks by comparing the component/product tag to the patient identification wristband.

### Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Kelsey Jakobsen, Transfusion Medicine Tech II, Medicine Hat 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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