



URGENT: IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

To: ALL HOSPITAL SITES
From: National Emergency Blood Management Committee*
Subject: GREEN PHASE ADVISORY

National Inventory SHORTAGE Advisory

Date and time of issue	2018-01-12 11:00 AM(EST)
Inventory Availability Phase	GREEN PHASE ADVISORY
Product(s)	Red Blood Cells(RBC): O Rh Negative
Description	<p>Over the past few weeks, Canadian Blood Services has experienced a reduced volume of donor appointments due to the holiday period and severe winter weather events that have been occurring in several regions, most notably the Atlantic region. As a result, distribution sites are currently experiencing lower than ideal inventory for O Rh negative RBCs. O Rh positive RBC inventory remains relatively strong with 4.7 days on hand.</p> <p>Additional recruitment activities have been in place and are underway leveraging radio, direct mail, email and calling outreach to O Rh negative donors. Canadian Blood Services anticipates donors to respond to these activities over the near term and therefore it is anticipated that we should see a recovery starting next week, with continued improvements to inventory through the end of January.</p> <p>As Canadian Blood Services communicated in a "Blood Brief" last summer, the sustained collective effort of all blood system stakeholders is integral to address the imbalance that exists between our O Rh negative donor population and national hospital demand. We all need to continue to support these efforts.</p>
Impact on hospitals	<p>Until Canadian Blood Services RBC inventories recover, we are asking hospitals to closely monitor and <u>reduce their target inventory of O Rh negative RBCs by at least 10%.</u> We are NOT asking for hospitals that hold low target inventories to reduce their inventory (e.g. very small hospitals or those that are already in their low Green range) or for product to be returned to Canadian Blood Services.</p> <p><i>Please note that there could be local distribution site stock positions that may require further reductions to orders (beyond 10%) as Canadian Blood Services balances national inventories. Inventory balancing activities between regions may take up to 24 hours to execute.</i></p> <p>Action required: We encourage hospitals to refer to the NAC guidelines in order to identify appropriate options for product utilization. All hospitals are to provide inventory levels by Noon EST each day until Jan 19, 2018. Hospital inventory is to be reported via the Blood Component and Product Disposition system: https://www.blood.ca/en/hospitals/blood-component-and-product-disposition-system <i>For hospital customers within the provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba, please follow your local approved processes for sharing inventory data with Canadian Blood Services.</i></p>
For more information	<p>For additional info, contact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Your Hospital Liaison Specialist, Canadian Blood Services2. Your representative to the Provincial Emergency Blood Management Committee3. Your representative to your Hospital Emergency Blood Management Committee

*The National Emergency Blood Management Committee is comprised of the National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products, Provincial Territorial Blood Liaison representatives and key Canadian Blood Services personnel. This group will develop recommendations and provide advice to the P/T Ministries of Health, hospitals and regional health authorities, and Canadian Blood Services to support a consistent and coordinated response to critical blood shortages in Canada.

For information about the National Blood Shortages Plan, please see: <http://www.nacblood.ca/resources/shortages-plan/index.html>

If you require this advisory in an accessible format, please contact your local Canadian Blood Services Hospital Liaison Specialist.