

Date: May 07, 2012
To: Central Zone – Former ECH Sites: Physicians
From: AHS Laboratory Services – Central Zone
Re: Notification of Administration of Blood or Blood Products

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Effective June 1, 2012, Alberta Health Services – former ECH sites, will be implementing a patient notification process for Blood and Blood Products. This is an accreditation requirement that requires our collective compliance. A process for this notification has been in place in most jurisdictions in the province for some time now and with this implementation, all acute care facilities in Central Zone will meet this requirement.

Why this is important:

The Canadian Society of Transfusion Medicine (CSTM) and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Standards state: *“A policy shall be established to ensure notification of recipients of blood components and blood products in writing.”*

Action Required:

At the time of discharge, the nurse will review the patient chart for any record of receipt of blood (includes components such as red cells, plasma) or blood products (albumin, immune globulins including WinRho, etc.). If so, the nurse will add a "Notification of Administration of Blood or Blood Products" form to the chart. The nurse will sign the form, then tear off and give to the patient (parent or legal guardian if applicable) the bottom part of the form that states that the patient received blood or blood products.

The specifics of the blood or blood products received are not listed. The form advises the patient to contact the treating physician or Health Link if there are questions or concerns. Health Link may direct the patient to contact the Transfusion Medicine Safety Officer, Central Zone.

This process may be of reassurance to a patient if concerns from Canadian Blood Services arise regarding blood product or blood component recipients.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Carole Ann LaGrange, Transfusion Medicine Safety Officer, Central Zone at 403-343-4842 or CaroleAnn.Lagrange@albertahealthservices.ca

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. James Wesenberg, AHS Provincial Medical / Scientific Director, Laboratory Services