



## Blood and Transplant

### The Update for February 2019

#### **O D negative K positive and K negative red cells; when is it safe to transfuse?**

We need to ensure that O D negative K negative red cells are available for those patients that need this phenotype. You can help us maintain supply of this vulnerable group by ensuring that you transfuse O D negative K positive red cells to those patients that can safely receive K positive.

Please see our [training resource](#) we have produced to assist you in selecting appropriate units for your patients.

*Tracey Scholes, Customer Service Development Manager*

#### **Emergency preparedness, resilience and response guidance for hospital transfusion teams**

The Emergency Planning Working Group are delighted to announce that the reviewed Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response guidance for Hospital Transfusion Teams was approved in January 2019 by the National Blood Transfusion Committee (NBTC) and is now available in the [Emergency Planning Working Group](#) section of the JPAC website.

This guidance has been updated for transfusion teams for use in major incidents and mass casualty events. This follows experience of multiple major incidents in 2017 that have presented a range of challenging clinical scenarios such as blast injury, penetrating injury, unlike those seen in day to day practice.

The guidance has been developed on behalf of the NHS, to establish and share best practice using experience from both military and civilian practice and lessons identified.

Organisations should share this guidance within hospital teams, so staff can be appropriately trained in responding to major incidents.

*Dr Heidi Doughty, Consultant in Transfusion Medicine (NHSBT); Chair of the NBTC Emergency Planning Working Group*

*Dr Fateha Chowdhury, Consultant Haematologist in Transfusion Medicine (NHSBT & Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust); Secretary of the NBTC Emergency*

*Planning Working Group  
Craig Wilkes, Regional Customer Service Manager, South West*

### **Low demand patient information leaflets**

Once current stocks of these are depleted, some will no longer be available to order as hard copies, however they are available for you to download.

The decision not to make them available to order has been made in collaboration with the NBTC Patient Involvement Working Group with the rationale of reducing wastage and ensuring patients always receive the most up to date version of the leaflet.

Details of leaflets affected will be on [patient information leaflets](#)

*Anne Davidson, Education Lead - PBM Practitioner Team*

### **Please work with your RCI lab to manage your referrals**

RCI provide services round the clock throughout the year. Our on call service is available outside core hours to investigate those samples that require results and/or crossmatched red cells that are clinically urgent and cannot wait until the next working day.

We frequently receive samples for investigation in on call circumstances, that have been available several hours before transportation to RCI.

Please can you work with your clinical and laboratory staff to refer samples as quickly as possible, particularly planned cases requiring complex transfusion support. This will maximise the number of investigations that can be carried out within core hours and help us manage our workload. It will also reduce the pressure on our staff working through the night on complex investigations, many of which are genuinely clinically urgent.

*Mark Williams, Head of RCI*

### **Importing low-risk vCJD plasma from Poland**

To ensure sufficiency of supply of MB FFP and MB Cryoprecipitate, we have secured an agreement to import low-risk vCJD plasma from Poland.

Following successful validation, the first consignments of this new supply were received towards the end of 2018 and have now entered our routine supply. We

have made appropriate labelling changes so there is no additional action needed by you to book these units into your LIMS.

As per the advice in our [component portfolio](#), small numbers of Group AB MB cryoprecipitate may be available on request, but this item is not routinely stocked.

We appreciate your understanding of the challenges presented in the supply of plasma components for patients born on or after 1 January 1996, and for your ongoing support in helping us to maintain sufficient stocks to meet patient demand.

*Alastair Hunter, Frozen Component Manager*

### **Registration for the SHOT Symposium 2019 is open**

This will take place at Rothamsted Centre for Research and Enterprise, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2JQ on 9 July.

The symposium is free to NHSBT staff and the subsidised delegate fee is £110, payable by credit/debit card only.

Please [register](#) by 28 June.

Following the success of the breakfast meeting last year, we will be holding a session from 8.15am to 9.30am where you can 'Ask the Experts' who analyse SHOT data and write the report. Spaces are limited. Please see the booking conditions on the registration form.

If you would like to submit an abstract, the closing date is 26 April. The best abstract will be allocated an oral slot.

#### [Details for submitting an abstract](#)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the SHOT office. We now have a dedicated email address for any queries related to the SHOT Symposium: [SHOT.Symposium@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:SHOT.Symposium@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

*Shruthi Narayan, SHOT Medical Director*

**The Update is produced each month by Commercial and Customer Services on behalf of NHS Blood and Transplant**

[NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

0208 201 3107

