



Blood and Transplant

The Update for March 2019

Changes to HLA selected platelets out of hours service from 13 May 2019

We have provided an out of hours service supplying these platelets for over ten years. In recent years the number of requests has increased significantly, and the current number is no longer sustainable.

Following a consultation with the NBTC and hospitals in Autumn 2018 a reduced service has been agreed which will operate as:

Core laboratory hours	Monday to Friday	9am to 5pm
Platelet orders	Monday to Friday	6am to 11pm
Our out of hours service is now for:		
Emergencies only	Monday to Friday	6am to 9am; 5pm to 11pm
	Saturday & Sunday (including bank holidays)	6am to 11pm

Please remember to place orders with at least 24 hours' notice to enable us to source the best unit for your patient from our national stock.

We advise that in cases of clinical urgency involving active bleeding, the delay to transfusion caused by waiting for the selection and transportation of suitable, matched platelets means using random donor platelets is the more appropriate short-term response for the benefit of patients.

If clinical advice regarding histocompatibility is required, the H&I on-call Consultant can be contacted 24/7 by medical staff via your hospital services department.

Dr Andrea Harmer, National Head of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics

Final issue of Blood and Transplant Matters publication, March 2019

Articles in this issue are:

- Birmingham Women's and Children's hospital laboratory open their doors to Harvey's Gang
- Transfusion spot check audit - Kettering General Hospital
- Safe supplies: a year of change
- Treatment uncertainties in blood donation and blood transfusion: involvement of patients and donors as well as clinicians
- Building evidence libraries: from filing cabinet to screen
- Corneal transplants - Benjamin Bates and Victoria Parson sons - helping patients see what they can only imagine
- CPD Questions and Answers for issue 54
- Clinical case studies
- Answers to clinical case studies
- Diary dates for 2019

[Read the issue](#)

The publication has been a regular newsletter for hospitals however this is the final issue. Previous issues from 2016 may be read in [the archive](#).

Dr Robert Webster, Consultant Haematologist

Please complete our Blood Stocks Management Scheme Inventory Practice Survey asap

The aim of the survey is to update the benchmarking categories linked to your hospital within VANESA to ensure that you can appropriately benchmark yourselves against similar laboratories. These categories will be updated on 1 April. If you don't complete the survey before this date your clinical benchmarking categories will be removed, and you will no longer be able to select these when analysing your data.

A separate survey will need to be completed for each hospital transfusion laboratory within your Trust.

If you have any queries please email bsms@nhsbt.nhs.uk

[Take the survey](#)

Clare Denison, Lead Specialist - Blood Stocks Management Scheme

Invitation for TLMs to participate in the NCA's re-audit of the medical use of blood

This is a re-audit following on from the initial audit conducted in 2011. The project group who will design and report the audit looking at how physicians use red cells is currently being built and we welcome your input.

The work required is minimal, and will be conducted by telecom or email.

The re-audit is being offered this Autumn. If you would like to join the initial meeting in April or like information please contact John Grant-Casey, NCA Programme Manager.

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Jane Addison, Patient Blood Management Practitioner, on behalf of NCA

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

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