



Blood and Transplant

21 August 2019

O D Negative Stock Update

Dear colleagues

Demand for O D negative red cells continues to trend upwards whilst overall red cell demand continues to decline. Our stock levels of this blood group are currently adequate to meet patient demand, but we are concerned that stock levels could fall into alert levels over the coming weeks if this trend continues. We are maximising our O D negative collection activity to help prevent this, but as always, we are very grateful for your ongoing support to help avoid a potential shortage.

We would like to thank the hospitals that are working with us to develop action plans to review ordering practices and reduce wastage. We are hopeful that as all Trusts review findings from the recently published O D Negative National Comparative Audit, and assess the impact of the updated National Blood Transfusion Committee O D Negative Guidance, this will help reverse the current trend. We would be particularly grateful for your support in restricting orders of O D negative red cells, as operationally appropriate, over the next few days as we approach the Bank Holiday.

O D negative will be an agenda item at the September National Blood Transfusion Committee meeting when NHSBT will also share information on our activity to increase not only the O D negative donor base, but the number of Ro blood donors. We look forward to sharing an update from the discussion with you after the meeting.

If you have any questions or would like further information or support, please contact your Patient Blood Management Practitioner or Customer Service Manager. Alternatively phone our Response Desk on 0208 201 3107, 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Please cascade this communication to laboratory and clinical staff as appropriate.

Kind regards,

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