



Blood and Transplant

The Update for February 2020

Update on our preparations for UK plasma self sufficiency

As part of our commitment to share information with you as we move towards domestic plasma component (FFP and cryoprecipitate) self-sufficiency, we are pleased to provide the following update.

COMPONENT ORDERING:

- Work is progressing to enable hospitals to order “generic” FFP (or cryoprecipitate) through OBOS
- We are planning on the IT system changes being made on 1 April 2020 which will then enable “generic” ordering of FFP and cryo
- These components will appear on OBOS and be ordered in the normal way
- Further detail on component ordering will be provided as part of our ongoing updates to you

We are grateful to Julie Staves for convening an extraordinary meeting of the National Transfusion Laboratory Managers (NTLM) group to discuss the practicalities of managing component provision during the transition. The NTLM’s and NHSBT have jointly agreed the following:

- During the transition, NHSBT will fulfil FFP/cryoprecipitate orders with a mix of UK and non-UK components
- As NHSBT data suggests that non-UK plasma components will only account for about 15% of our total plasma stock (and will decrease during the transition period), we will not take any specific measures to artificially increase the proportion of UKFFP provided to hospitals who pre-thaw UKFFP
- NHSBT will use “best endeavours” to share UK/non-UK component provision equitably; whilst the exact mix may fluctuate in individual orders, it should even out over the transition period
- If, as the transition period progresses, individual hospitals consider there is a material imbalance in the mix of UK/non-UK components being received which is causing difficulties for patient treatment those hospitals may contact their Customer Service Manager for assistance
- Additionally, if individual hospitals wish to volunteer to increase their stocks of non-UK components, they should contact their Customer Service Manager to discuss

NHSBT would like to place on record our appreciation for the insight brought into our planning from our hospital colleagues on the NTLM group.

COMPONENT PRICING:

- NHSBT's Executive Board has approved a uniform price for FFP and cryoprecipitate to remove the current price differential
- As per standard process, NHSBT's pricing proposals are now before the Department of Health and Social Care's National Commissioning Group (NCG) for scrutiny
- Subject to ratification by the NCG, from the 1 April 2020 we intend to charge one price for FFP and one price for cryoprecipitate, regardless of the origin of that component's plasma
- We will update you as matters progress

PLASMA COMPONENT PORTFOLIO:

- The move to domestic plasma self-sufficiency requires a number of revisions to our portfolio of plasma components
- Some of these changes require amendments to the Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services in the UK (also known as the "Red Book") which set out the specification of plasma components for neonatal use
- Subject to final confirmation, the intended availability and timing of plasma components is below:

Component	Availability	Comments
MBFFP (adult)	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be gradually phased out during transition to be replaced by UKFFP (adult)
MBFFP (neonatal)	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will continue to be the standard component for neonatal use during transition• Will be gradually phased out during transition to be replaced by UKFFP (neonatal)
UKFFP (adult)	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Availability will increase to meet forecast FFP demand with 100% UK sourced plasma
UKFFP (neonatal)	Not available at launch (April 2020). Component will be introduced during transition period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New component specification to be added to <i>Red Book</i>• Will communicate to hospitals when small volume UKFFP comes on stream• New product code will be issued• Until this time, orders will be fulfilled with MBFFP (neonatal)
MBcryo pools	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be gradually phased out during transition to be replaced by UKcryo pools
MBcryo single	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will continue to be the standard component for neonatal use during transition

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be gradually phased out during transition to be replaced by UKcryo singles
UKcryo pools	No change to current availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability will increase to meet forecast cryo demand with 100% UK sourced plasma
UKcryo single	<p>Not available at launch (April 2020).</p> <p>Component will be introduced during transition period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New component specification to be added to <i>Red Book</i> Will communicate to hospitals when UKcryo singles come on stream New product code will be issued Until this time, orders will be fulfilled with MBcryo singles

STOCK MANAGEMENT FOR HOSPITALS ON NHSBT's STOCK MANAGEMENT SERVICE:

We will shortly issue a tailored communication to hospitals on our Stock Management Service advising current stock targets for plasma components. This will allow hospitals to decide if they wish to adjust those targets once we start to fulfil FFP and pooled cryoprecipitate orders with a mixture of UK and non-UK components.

NHSBT DEMAND PLANNING TO SUPPORT COMPONENT AVAILABILITY:

- We continue to ask hospitals to maintain appropriate ordering of high titre negative components and their current UK/non-UK component ordering profiles

PLATELETS:

Further to previous communication, we are not currently planning to make any significant changes to the percentages of apheresis platelets that we collect.

This is an operational decision unrelated to the revised SaBTO recommendations.

FURTHER UPDATES:

We thank you for your support and partnership. We will continue to provide updates as our planning progresses.

Alastair Hunter, NHSBT Frozen Component Manager, February 2020

Improved despatch note to confirm the cold chain, in use from 30 March

We've improved the note to include temperature control details, detailing the time the component(s) was removed from temperature-controlled storage, and the [type of transport box](#) used.

The details relating to transport now allows using an electronic signature. The final section gives information on what to do on receiving your order.

TEMPERATURE CONTROL DETAILS

Removed from Controlled Storage: / / :

Date Time

Transport Container Type	No. of Boxes	Maximum Transport Time
Long Journey	[] Hours
Medium Short Journey	[] Hours
Small Short Journey	[] Hours

These changes to the note mean you will be able to easily assess the cold chain, when you sign to confirm you have received the consignment.

Record TRANSPORT DETAILS using Electronic Signature, or complete below:

Collected by:
Name (Print in capitals) Signature

..... / / :

Date Time

Please note, where electronic signatures are used Transport Details do not need to be completed.

RECEIVED AT HOSPITAL

Unpack boxes immediately upon receipt.

Refer to the 'Temperature Control Details' section above. If the maximum travel time has been exceeded, quarantine products and contact Hospital Services.

Please use OBOS to confirm receipt of this consignment.

Please remember to confirm receipt in OBOS.

If you have any queries, please contact your customer service manager.

Christine Gallagher, Regional Customer Service Manager (North)

Emergency preparedness, resilience and response guidance for hospital transfusion teams

Hospital transfusion teams have an important role in ensuring continuity of transfusion support during major incidents. Teams should be prepared based on their local Trust plans and national guidance. The new document [Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response \(EPRR\) for UK Hospital Transfusion Teams](#) (2020) provides updated guidance on behalf of the National Blood Transfusion Committee emergency planning working group.

Other resources include:

[Gap analysis template to support hospital transfusion preparedness](#)

The transfusion guidance is linked to the NHS England [Clinical guidelines for major incidents and mass casualty events](#). This clinical guidance document was first published 24 December 2018 and may be found in the [Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response](#) part of the NHS England website. It has been developed with the occasional trauma team in mind, for example, surgeons in a trauma unit who need to treat a deteriorating P2 patient, or a P1 patient who has been conveyed to the trauma unit, during a major incident response.

Drs H Doughty & F Chowdhury, Consultants in Transfusion Medicine

Customer satisfaction survey 2019 / 2020: results from the first survey, and the second survey

We'll be sending our second survey to Transfusion Laboratory Managers on 16 March, asking them to rate us on our blood supply, delivery and other services.

You can see what questions we ask, along with the results of the first survey on our [survey page](#).

We appreciate it's hard for lab managers to find time to complete the survey and while many of them manage to, we're keen to reach our target of 100% response rate. Please support your TLM to complete our survey.

The feedback we get is invaluable, it helps us to focus on developing our services, turning the insights we get into actions that further improve performance and customer satisfaction.

Chris Philips, Head of Customer Service

Please update your LIMS with the Barnsley site codes before 1 June

In preparation for the [opening of the centre](#) in June please update your LIMS with these codes to ensure components can be booked in.

Centre name = NHSBT Barnsley

Centre ID = G0923

Site code = D2

Location code = 9959

Craig Wilkes, Lead Specialist - Process Improvement Commercial & Customer Service

Change to order notes in OBOS to support our First In – First Out (FIFO) policy; Maximum age

All our components have a shelf life as stated in the Blood and Blood Component Contract, and we supply them according to our FIFO policy. To make this clear, from 16 March, this order note comment:

'Stock order: Long dated as possible. Please call if not possible'

will be:

'Stock order'

Maximum age - may we please remind you should only request a specific blood age, only when there is a clinical requirement.

These changes will help us to maintain supply stability and stock age profile.

Craig Wilkes, Lead Specialist - Process Improvement Commercial & Customer Service

Placing orders on the OBOS TRAINING site from 16 March

A fix is being applied to the site which means users will be able place to orders from 16 March.

Not being able to place an order currently, is partly a result of the large volume of orders (mainly standing orders with no end date, which have continued to generate) stored on OBOS. We will be deleting all the orders from the training site; if you need any for training purposes, please take copies.

To stop the issue recurring, we're looking at developing OBOS so that orders older than 3 months will be automatically deleted. In the meantime, when you set up a standing order, please provide an end date.

Craig Wilkes, Lead Specialist - Process Improvement Commercial & Customer Service

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

NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk

01865 381010