

09 March 2020

Situation Update - Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Colleagues,

We felt it important to provide an update on our supply of components and services in view of the emerging situation regarding COVID- 19.

We are in a good position with our stock of blood components and will alert you should this position change.

To help ensure we are able to meet the demand for O D negative red cells, we would be grateful for your ongoing support in limiting the ordering of O D negative red blood cells unless clinically indicated. In addition, where possible, please avoid requests for long dated components and reduce requests for K negative red blood cells unless clinically required.

Our Red Cell Immunohaematology, Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics and Stem Cell services will continue to support hospitals as currently contracted. Please inform the laboratory if the sample comes from a patient who is known or suspected to be infected with COVID-19. We will inform you of any changes that may be necessary to manage any risks associated with the virus in due course.

If you need to consider changes to use of our services in response to COVID-19, please contact your Customer Service Manager.

We have a pandemic plan in place to respond to the development of the virus and to manage the impact on donor activity, functioning of NHSBT as an organization and our ability to supply to hospitals across the range of services and support we provide.

The PHE advice for [coronavirus and health professionals](#) is regularly updated and is an informative source of further information on the wider perspective of the virus.

Kind regards

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