



Blood and Transplant

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31st March 2020

Dear Customer

Re: Supply of NHSBT Reagents products

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, NHSBT Reagents are endeavouring to ensure continued supply of our products to our customers. We have adequate stock of all our longer dated products to meet your requirements.

Regarding our red cell products, we have applied to our notified body to extend the shelf life. Part of this submission was to include post-expiry data of the products from the past 2 years. The notified body have analysed this information and have agreed that, as a temporary measure, we can extend the shelf life for a further 2 weeks.

Although we are confident in the stability of the products for this extended period, we do recommend that you continue to use them within usual pattern of use in line with the current despatch schedule. We do not intend to change the manufacturing schedule, so you will still receive your 4-weekly supply of products. This extension to expiry date has been introduced as a contingency measure to prevent an interruption to supply.

In line with advice from our notified body and ISO registration, we will be reverting to our standard expiry for these products as soon as is practical, to ensure we can continue to supply all our customers. We will advise you of the planned date of reverting to the standard expiry in due course.

This temporary extension will be in place from products manufactured week commencing 06/04/2020.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Reagents customers services.

Thank you for your continued custom.

Michelle Weston

RCI National Reagents Manager