

# Reduced Dose Platelets: Key Messages

## For Hospital Clinical Teams

- During a severe platelet shortage NHS Blood and Transplant will be producing platelet packs with a reduced dosage of platelets, these will contain approx. 2/3 of the standard dose.
- The pack label will say reduced-dose apheresis platelets, but the unit will otherwise appear the same as usual.
- Use reduced-dose apheresis platelets for prophylaxis (to prevent bleeding), rather than for patients who are actively bleeding, or who require a major urgent or emergency procedure.
- There will be no change to pooled platelets: Use pooled platelets (if available) for major haemorrhage / actively bleeding patients /major procedures, because these are standard dose.
- Tell the transfusion laboratory the reason for any platelet requests (major bleeding, major procedure or prophylaxis).
- Neonatal Platelets will not be affected (no changes to component).
- HLA or HPA-selected platelets may not be available. All requests for HLA or HPA-selected platelets will need to be approved by a Haematology Consultant at your hospital, use random donor ABO-matched platelets if these are unavailable.