



Blood and Transplant

The Update for November 2023

New guidance to hospitals on shelf life requirements for red cell transfusions Thank you and reminder

We want to send a huge thank you to the twenty-six hospitals that have already implemented the new guidance and completely changed their ordering practice. We'd like to remind all other hospitals to amend your ordering practice in line with the recent [joint statement](#) released by NHSBT, NBTC & UK Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Societies

Please stop requesting 'fresh' or 'max life' units when creating red cell orders in line with the recommendation.

Please also remember to amend any existing standing orders you may have in place that stipulate max life.

This change will improve our ability to provide patients with red cells that better match their extended phenotype, especially those with the R₀ phenotype.

Tracy Tomlinson - National Lead, Patient Blood Management

Error within Essential Transfusion Practice elearning module Error within Essential Transfusion Practice elearning module

Following the identification of a transcription error within the module, relating to last choice compatibility of FFP, this module has been updated. The risk associated with the error is considered minimal, but a risk assessment has been completed and is available on request (PBM.Team@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

Anne Davidson - Education Lead, Patient Blood Management Practitioner Team

Sending fetal RHD screening samples over the December and January bank holidays

For your action to ensure your samples are processed and not rejected

[Please read our information \(PDF 100KB\)](#) about sending samples and overnight transport times

[Schedule \(PDF 61KB\)](#) of laboratory working times, transport times to and from our centres and overnight deliveries

For future reference this information is available on the [IBGRL website](#), in the 'Documents' drop-down.

Erika Rutherford - Business Development Manager, International Blood Group