



Blood and Transplant

TO: Transfusion Laboratory Managers; Transfusion Practitioners; Consultant Lead for Transfusion; NHS England EPRR

08 May 2024

UPDATE: A D negative platelet stock levels have improved

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your support over the last few days whilst we experienced low stock levels of A D negative platelets. With your considered approach to ordering and flexibility in accepting substitutions, we have together ensured continued supply for all hospitals.

You can now return to ordering as normal. However, please maintain best practice and continue to support us to help maintain the stock positions.

We ask for your support with the following:

A D negative Platelets

- If you reduced your stock holding of A D negative platelets, please review the need to increase stock to previous levels or gradually increase stocks where required.
- Review your stock holding and reduce where safe to do so.
- Avoid over-specification and only order CMV negative, apheresis and HT negative to meet clinical requirements.
- Review the appropriateness of requests for platelets, especially any requests for double dose platelets to ensure that wastage is kept to a minimum.
- Where possible, transfuse A D positive for males of unknown blood group

Once again, thank you all for your help and your ongoing support.

If you have any questions, please contact your Customer Service Manager. Alternatively phone our Response Desk on 0208 201 3107, 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday; we'll be pleased to help.

Please forward this letter to your Consultant lead for transfusion and cascade to laboratory and clinical staff as appropriate.

Kind regards

Dr Lise Estcourt

Consultant Haematologist

Associate Professor of Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, University of Oxford

Clinical Lead for the Systematic Review Initiative

Director of NHSBT Clinical Trials Unit

Associate Medical Director (AMD) – Research, Development and Quality Improvement – Transfusion

NHS Blood and Transplant