



## Blood and Transplant

### The Update for October 2024

#### **Please review the updated NBTC Red Cell Shortage Plan**

Given recent concerns about O negative stock in England, the NBTC Red Cell Shortage plan has been updated, with particular changes being made to the actions required in a Red Alert phase.

The main changes are highlighted in purple in pages 2 and 23, and appendix 1 – categories of patients.

The plan is available on the [NBTC website](#), and I ask that you review the it.

Fateha Chowdhury - Consultant Haematologist in Transfusion Medicine, Clinical Lead for Business Continuity, Chair NBTC Emergency Planning Working Group / Haematology & Trauma Group / UK Red Alert Plan Group

#### **Updated NBTC transfusion indication codes are now available**

The NBTC transfusion indication codes have been updated to reflect current guidelines and transfusion evidence, and are published on the [NBTC website](#).

The Blood Components App is being updated to reflect the new indication codes and we will update you again when this is complete.

Tracey Tomlinson - National Lead for Patient Blood Management

#### **Samples for genotyping of haemoglobinopathy patients should be sent to Molecular Diagnostics (Filton).**

Please send directly to Molecular Diagnostics, rather than via your RCI lab. This will avoid delays with results.

Use the Molecular Diagnostics form for Requesting Genotype testing (FRM4738), which includes the address to send the samples to. A guidance document to help complete the form is also available on the [IBGRL website](#).

Dan Palmer- RCI Liverpool Head of Laboratory

## **NBTC Transfusion Laboratory Managers Advisory Group and NHSBT Audit to understand where O D Negative red cells go**

The NBTC Transfusion Laboratory Managers Advisory Group and NHSBT have been working together to develop an audit tool to help laboratories understand where their O RhD neg units are going and to support decisions around stock levels, policies on usage etc. A national level report will also be produced which will be helpful moving forward with understanding on how this precious resource is being utilised and help NHSBT to better understand demand.

Individual hospitals will receive a list of units which have been received in their laboratory between 9th and 22nd September and we are asking you to provide us with the fate of the units and the reason why group O RhD neg red cells were required. A link to the audit tool **will be** sent to you on the 24th October with a closing date of the 27th November.

Tracey Tomlinson - National Lead for Patient Blood Management

**The Update is produced by Hospital Customer Service on behalf of NHS Blood and Transplant**

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