

The Update for September 2025

September go-live for apheresis platelets in platelet additive solution (PAS) and plasma has been postponed

In August we continued testing this new component which identified further validation work is required. Once we have identified the requirements for this validation work and re-tested, we will notify you of the new go-live date.

In the meantime, please ensure you have updated your LIMS with the component barcodes which are published on the [component portfolio and prices webpage](#).

Thank you.

Rukhsana Hashmat - Customer Service Manager, North West Hospital Customer Service

Register to attend RCI Assist drop-in sessions Sessions are running each month from November 2025 to March 2026

We are hosting further drop-in sessions following the launch of RCI Assist to provide an opportunity to ask questions or get a live demo.

Visit the NBTC website to find out more and to [register for a session](#).

Helen Thom - Pathology Business Development Manager

Blood Stocks Management's (BSMS) VANESA data entry recommendations for hospitals From September 2025

We are updating the recommended minimum data entry into VANESA, our data management system, to improve our understanding of stock levels and enhance reporting back to scheme participants.

The recommendations are:

- red cell stock entries - increase from 15 to 20 per month
- wastage entries - remain at one per month for red cells and platelets and are now also recommended at one per month for FFP and cryoprecipitate

For more information, visit our [reporting and monitoring webpage](#) or email your questions to BloodStock.ManagementScheme@nhsbt.nhs.uk.

Danny Gaskin - Lead Specialist, Blood Stocks Management Scheme

Reminder: disruption due to elfh hub transfer to the Learning Zone

As per our [previous notifications](#), NHS England have advised that our eLearning modules will transfer to the new learning zone platform in October 2025.

Please remember to:

1. Download any completion data required from the Tableau dashboard on 30th September. Contact [NHSE TEL elfh Support](#) for guidance
2. Advise staff to complete any training in progress before 30th September
3. Advise staff to download/print all certificates/evidence of completion
4. Advise staff not to undertake any eLearning during October.

Note: Organisations that use AICC or the Electronic Staff Record (ESR) platform will not be affected. eIntegrity users will be informed directly if and when their access will be disrupted.

Details of how to access our eLearning modules on the new platform will be shared once the transfer is complete.

Anne Davidson - Education Lead, Patient Blood Management Team

We are launching a new credit request form and an updated user guide on 6 October 2025

[Last month](#) we announced a new version of the credit request form and an updated user guide will be available on the customer credit request webpage.

We would like to remind you to delete previous versions of the form and user guide. If you require support with the new form, contact your customer service manager or email nhsbtcustomerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk.

Delia Smith - Projects and Customer Insights Lead, Hospital Customer Service

Spaces are available on autumn Transfusion Science courses Book now

There's still time to book your place on our autumn Transfusion Science courses, including:

- Practical Introduction to Transfusion Science (PITS)
- Specialist Transfusion Science Practice (STSP)
- Advanced Transfusion Masterclass

Find the course details, dates, and booking information on the [Transfusion Science Academy](#).

[NHS England fully-funded places](#) are available for NHS staff.

Alison Hines - Scientific and Clinical Training and Education Manager, Scientific and Clinical Training and Education Team

Therapeutic Apheresis Services (TAS) will begin moving patient and donor care to a digitally-managed platform, TAS Connect from mid November 2025

TAS Connect has been designed and tested to:

- streamline and standardise the referral processes
- support clinical visibility across therapeutic apheresis services teams
- enhance data quality and oversight

The process of moving to TAS Connect will be carefully managed through a prescriptive, staged roll-out. This will begin with Plasma Exchange referrals only.

All other procedure referrals will continue in the paper format for now and will be introduced and rolled out in the near future. Staff in the TAS units you work with will know when this is happening and will be fully prepared. We will send email notifications to teams who refer into TAS, with information to support the TAS Connect referral process.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss how TAS Connect will support your team, please email therapeuticapheresisservices@nhsbt.nhs.uk.

Nicola Newbound - Head of Education and Governance, Therapeutic Apheresis Services

Updated SaBTO guidelines on patient consent and shared decision-making for blood transfusion are now published on the Wiley online library

The 2025 updated guidelines from the expert advisory committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO) on patient consent and shared decision-making for blood transfusion are available on the [British Journal of Haematology's publication on the Wiley Online Library](#). These guidelines supersede the 2020 recommendations.

We will advise when the Hospitals and Science and JPAC website pages have been updated accordingly.

Anwen Davies - Patient Blood Management Practitioner, Patient Blood Management Team

**Field Safety Notice issued in relation to agents used for HLA B27 testing
FSN 2025-05_FastQ B27**

Further to the communication issued to transfusion laboratory managers on 9 September regarding the [supplier field safety notice \(PDF 132KB\)](#)

We have completed retesting patients where an original blood sample was available and to date all results issued have been correct. However in some cases where a sample is no

longer available for testing it may be necessary to rebleed patients. If we require a second sample from your patients, you will be notified in writing.

In the unlikely event that the patient tests positive, a new report will be issued in Sp-ICE when retesting is complete.

You will not be charged for the retest.

We are continuing to test new patient referrals by an alternative method, but there may be a short delay in turnaround time for HLA B27 testing in the coming weeks until the supplier resolves the problem.

While this problem is ongoing the report format will be slightly different from your usual B27 report, however it will clearly state whether the patient has tested positive or negative.

If you have any queries, please direct them to HINATNL@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Dr Katy Latham, PhD FRCPath - Assistant Director of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics

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

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