



**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

1800 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa ON
K1G 4J5
Canada

INFORMATION ONLY

Donor High Titre Isohemagglutinin (Anti-A /Anti-B) Testing

Customer Letter # 2022-14

2022-06-15

Dear Colleagues:

Canadian Blood Services will introduce automated isohemagglutinin titre testing (anti-A and anti-B) on all whole blood and apheresis donors to support the labelling of the following blood products as low titre:

- group A, B and O pooled and apheresis platelets and
- transfusable group A plasma.

The donor high titre assay (HT assay) will be implemented later this year pending Health Canada approval.

The HT assay uses a cut-off which is equivalent to a manual immediate spin titre < 128. Selected components meeting low titre criteria will have this information provided on the end-label with the statement "Low Anti-A/B" (see **Attachment 1**).

For a pooled platelet to be labelled low titre, all donors in the pool must test as low titre. As a consequence, only a limited number of pooled platelets will be labelled as "Low Anti-A/B" (estimate 15-20%).

Implementation of the donor HT assay and labelling of components as low titre will help to support inventory management while mitigating the risk of ABO incompatible platelet transfusion and emergency use of group A plasma in the trauma setting.

The Circular of Information will be updated to align with the changes described in this letter.

Additional information will be provided closer to the implementation date.

Please share a copy of this customer letter with healthcare professionals at your hospital who might be interested in this information.

This customer letter can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the "Hospitals Services" section. If you have questions about this letter, or if you require it in an accessible format, please contact your local hospital liaison specialist.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gwen Clarke
Associate Medical Director, Donor & Clinical Services
Donor Testing Laboratory

Attachment 1


C0555 22 910284  **5**
Canadian Blood Services/Société canadienne du sang
Ottawa, ON K1G 4J5
Establishment Licence/Licence d'établissement: 100390
Volunteer donor. This product may transmit infectious agents.
See Circular of Information for indications, contraindications,
cautions and methods of infusion. Donneur bénévole. Ce
produit peut transmettre des agents infectieux. Voir la
Circular d'information pour les indications, les contre-
indications, les mises en garde et les méthodes de perfusion.
Collected on
Prélevé le 
0220390958
08 FEB 2022 09:58


E3087V00
APHERESIS/APHÉRÈSE
PLATELETS
PLAQUETTES
LEUKOCYTES REDUCED/PART. DÉLEUCOCYTÉES
CONTAINER/CONTENANT 1

Volume: 194 mL
Anticoagulant: ACD-A
Store at/Conserver à 20-24°C


6200 Canadian Blood Services Société canadienne du sang

A
Rh POSITIVE


Expires on
Périmé le
0220462359
15 FEB 2022 23:59


999999999999999901  **Low Anti-A/B**