

URGENT COMMUNICATION

A copy of this letter can be found at hospital.blood.co.uk/

Date: 08 March 2018

To: **Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Transfusion Practitioner, Consultant Haematologist with responsibility for Blood Transfusion at all hospitals served by NHSBT**

Dear Colleague,

PLATELET SHORTAGE – RETURN TO NORMAL Stocks of A D positive and A D negative

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain supply of group A platelets over the last few days. With your considered approach to ordering and flexibility in accepting substitutions, we have together ensured continued supply for all hospitals. Your support with this has been very much appreciated.

We are pleased to inform you that there has been an improvement in our group A platelets stocks and we are now able to move to the **Green phase** of the shortage plan.

Ongoing support:

1. Please avoid over-specification and only order CMV negative, apheresis and HT negative platelets to meet clinical requirements, in order to avoid any delay in supply. [Platelet-mythbuster](#)
2. Please review the appropriateness of requests for platelets, especially any requests for double dose platelets to ensure that wastage is kept to a minimum.

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

Please cascade to laboratory and clinical staff as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

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