

URGENT COMMUNICATION

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

Date: 13 April 2018

To: Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Transfusion Practitioner, Consultant
Haematologist with responsibility for Blood Transfusion

Dear Colleague,

Update on Red Cell Stock Levels

We would like to thank you for your support whilst we rebuilt our red cell stocks following the recent adverse weather conditions. With your help and the overwhelming response from donors, we now have improved stock levels across all blood groups and our overall total days of stock is in a much stronger position.

Our stock levels remain sensitive to changes in donor attendance and patient need, and we know that you appreciate our challenge in maintaining sufficient levels of stock for specific blood groups. We therefore continue to ask for your help and support in managing your stocks and usage to minimise wastage where ever possible.

Our ongoing ask is:

1. Please regularly review your stock levels.
2. Ensure appropriate use is consistently applied and continue to minimise waste.
3. Consider single-unit red cell transfusion where appropriate - NICE guidelines.
4. Conserve O D negative red cells for group O D negative patients in line with established guidelines.

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 cascade to laboratory and clinical staff as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

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