



## *Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Memorandum*

**To:** Nova Scotia Health and IWK Health Care Providers and Service Directors

**From:** Transfusion Medicine, Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine

**Date:** March 3, 2023

**Message:** *Pathogen reduced Psoralen-Treated Pooled Platelets*

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On March 20, 2023 Canadian Blood Services (CBS) will be introducing a new platelet, pathogen-reduced platelets. The pathogen-reduced platelet components contain a platelet additive solution (PAS-E) and will be treated using the Intercept® Blood System for Platelets by Cerus. The Intercept® treatment inactivates a broad spectrum of pathogens (viruses, bacteria and parasites) as well as leukocytes.

For patients who require platelet transfusion and require irradiated blood products there is no change to the ordering practice. If you receive pathogen reduced platelets they are a safe product to transfuse. Due to the manufacturing process this eliminates the need for this product to be irradiated. This is a new product available from CBS that will be in inventory along with non-pathogen reduced platelets such as pooled and apheresed platelets that do require irradiation (if patient has that transfusion requirement). The pathogen-reduced pooled platelet component is labeled **Pooled Platelet Psoralen-Treated** and currently has a **5-day** shelf life.

This component cannot be volume reduced (centrifuged and supernatant removed) and shall not be used for neonatal patients treated with phototherapy devices that emit a peak energy wavelength less than 425 nm, or have a lower bound of the emission bandwidth <375 nm, due to the potential for erythema resulting from interaction between ultraviolet light and amotosalen.

Further information on this component can be found in the Circular of Information on the CBS website.

([Circular of Information For the Use of Human Blood Components](https://www.blood.ca/sites/default/files/J800248_2022-01-17.pdf) - [https://www.blood.ca/sites/default/files/J800248\\_2022-01-17.pdf](https://www.blood.ca/sites/default/files/J800248_2022-01-17.pdf))

Please direct any questions or concerns to Jennifer LeFrense, Manager Nova Scotia Provincial Blood Coordinating Team at (902) 487-0504.