



Capital Health

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE
Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Halifax, NS
Phone: (902) 473-8471
Fax: (902) 473-4285

MEMORANDUM

To: CDHA Health Service Managers, Clinical Nurse Educators

From: Dr. Irene Sadek, MD, FRCP(C), Medical Director, Blood Transfusion Service (BTS)
Joan MacLeod, District Technical Manager, Blood Transfusion Service (BTS)

Date: March 23, 2012

RE: Patient Safety Reports – Missing Transfusion Documentation on Blood Transfusion Tags

Effective April 1, 2012, Blood Transfusion Service (BTS) will be submitting Patient Safety Reports (PSRs) to Health Service Managers (exception Operating Rooms) for any blood transfusion tags returned to BTS that are missing transfusion documentation in accordance with the Capital Health Policy: CC 75-005 Blood/Blood Product Transfusions. Transfusion documentation required by the Transfusionist on the blood tag includes:

- 1) Date and time (both start and finish) of transfusion
- 2) Signature of the individual who administered the transfusion
- 3) Signature of the individual who verified the transfusion information
- 4) Volume transfused
- 5) Transfusion Reaction documentation

This change resulted from the bi-annual assessment in Blood Transfusion Service by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) in December 2011. The AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Z902-2010 Blood and Blood Components require the transfusion information be documented on the patient chart (blood tag).

Nursing unit managers will be required to respond through the PSR system for lack of transfusion documentation by the nursing unit staff in accordance with CC 75-005 Blood/Blood Product Transfusion and the AABB and CSA Standards.

Lack of transfusion documentation in the Operating Rooms will be reported to the Anaesthesia Quality Assurance Committee.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward to continue to enhance quality patient care. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Irene Sadek, BTS Medical Director, @ 473-8471 or via email, irene.sadek@cdha.nshealth.ca, Joan MacLeod, BTS Technical Manager, @ 473-8260 or via email, joan.macleod@cdha.nshealth.ca or April Lockhart, Transfusion Practice Nurse @ 473-2527 or via email, april.lockhart@cdha.nshealth.ca