



Capital Health

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE
Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

MEMORANDUM

To: CDHA Medical Staff, CDHA Health Service Managers, CDHA Nurse Educators

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

Date: April 14, 2014

RE: Plasma Transfusion Guidelines

Effective Monday May 5, 2014, Blood Transfusion Service will review all requests for plasma to ensure compliance with Capital Health policy CC 75-007 in order to maintain consistency with the mandate of Blood Transfusion Services in relation to appropriate utilization of plasma products. Please fill all the required fields on the Blood Transfusion requisition indicating the coagulation test results and reason for request.

Capital Health policy CC 75-007 Plasma Transfusion Guidelines specifies that the indications for plasma transfusion are:

- 1) Bleeding or prior to an invasive or operative procedure in patients with an INR greater than 1.7 and the patient is not on warfarin
- 2) Bleeding or prior to an invasive or operative procedure with a PTT \geq 45 seconds and the patient is not on heparin
- 3) Patients requiring a plasma exchange for Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia Purpura or Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome
- 4) Microvascular bleeding or massive transfusion
- 5) Patients with a coagulopathy requiring a factor concentrate replacement and the factor concentrate is not available

NOTE: The completion of the Blood Transfusion requisition will not apply to the Operating Rooms or massively bleeding patients.

This Capital Health policy is based on National and International recommendations. Adherence to these recommendations will improve plasma utilization and reduce the potential risk of adverse transfusion events. Inability to provide the requested information on the requisition will lead into delays in issuing the product. A clinical consult with the Hematopathologist will be required if the request is not in compliance with CDHA guidelines.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward to ensure transfusion appropriateness and 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, or Joan MacLeod, BTS Technical Manager, @ 473-8260 or via email, joan.macleod@cdha.nshealth.ca.