



## Memorandum

**TO:** NS Health, St. Anne's Community Centre and IWK Physicians, Health Service Managers, Nurse Educators

**FROM:** Program of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

**DATE:** January 21, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Blood Administration Policy CL-BP-030 Revision

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The Blood Administration Policy CL-BP-030 has been revised to reflect requirements in the Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents Policy December 2019 and the Smart Pump Infusion Therapy – Use of Infusion Pump with Dose Error Reduction System (DERS) Policy February 2020. In addition the policy has been revised to address feedback from the Transfusion Medicine AABB Accreditation and now identifies additional information required for transfusion associated overload (TACO) these changes will be implemented March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

### Revisions include:

- A *Note* box has been added to the policy body (p. 11) stating: If a serious reaction to a Blood Product is suspected, this must additionally be reported in SIMS as per NSHA AD-QR-030, IWK- 339 Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents (Vanessa's Law).
- Appendix D has been edited to specifically cite that platelets can be given via gravity or may be infused via Fresenius Kabi Agilia© and B Braun pumps.
- Policy statements 4, 5 and 6 have been added:
  - i) regarding the Authorized Prescriber's (AP) responsibility to assess recipient risk factors for TACO
  - ii) Transfusion service's ability to contact the AP and Medical Director to seek additional information when necessary;



- iii) Transfusion Services responsibility to notify the AP before any blood component is administered outside of appropriate utilization, as defined in the NSHA/IWK Blood Utilization Guidelines.
- An appendix (F) has been added outlining the recipient risk factors for TACO and tactics to reduce circulatory loading.

If you have any questions, please contact *Jennifer LeFrense (Manager, Nova Scotia Provincial Blood Coordinating Team)* at (902) 487-0504 or [jennifer.lefrense@nshealth.ca](mailto:jennifer.lefrense@nshealth.ca)