
INFORMATION ONLY

Implementation Update; Extension of Platelet Components Shelf Life From 5 to 7 Days

Customer Letter # 2017-31

2017-07-19

Dear Customer:

Further to Customer Letter #2017-02 and Customer Letter #2017-13, Health Canada has approved the extension of platelet components shelf life from 5 to 7 days. The implementation date is set for Monday August 14th, 2017.

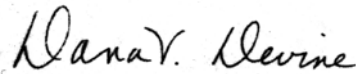
During the first few days as we transition from 5 to 7 day platelets, there will be a slight delay in receiving fresh inventory. This is because platelets collected on Monday will not be available for issue until 18 hours later than our current 5 day expiry process, due to the change in testing algorithm.

We ask for your understanding and cooperation with the following:

- Delivery of platelet components with any expiry date.
- Doses of platelets may be imported from Héma-Québec to help offset the delay. Hospitals are reminded to make sure they have Héma-Québec component codes set up in their laboratory information system.

This customer letter can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the “Hospitals” section. If you have questions about this letter, or if you require it in an accessible format, please contact your local hospital liaison specialist.

Sincerely,



Dana Devine, Ph.D.
Chief Medical & Scientific Officer