

Important Information Regarding ISBT 128 Sample Labels and Product Codes

Customer Letter #2008-28

2008-11-17

Dear Colleague:

This letter pertains to:

ISBT 128 Sample Labels and Product Codes

At a Glance:

- What?** ISBT 128 sample labels and product codes are now available. **Attachment 1** to this Customer Letter provides the list of ISBT 128 Product Codes and Label Text. **Attachment 2** provides a representative set of sample component labels.
- When?** Sample labels and product codes may be used immediately in preparation for ISBT 128 implementation planned for May 2009.
- Who?** Share this information with hospital information services and blood bank staff.
- Why?** Sample labels and product codes will assist hospitals in preparation for the introduction of ISBT 128 label standards in May 2009.

Full Story:

Further to Customer Letter #2008-06 informing hospitals that Canadian Blood Services will be implementing ISBT 128 across Canada in May 2009, the list of ISBT 128 product codes and sample component labels are now available. ISBT 128 is an international standard for the labelling of blood components with the objective of achieving international consistency in the information provided on component end labels and the placement of such information.

Attachment 1 to this Customer Letter provides the list of ISBT 128 Product Codes and Label Text. **Attachment 2** provides a representative set of sample component labels. Additional copies of the sample label set and other documents will be available for download at www.transfusionmedicine.ca.

ISBT 128 Product Codes and Label Text

A table listing the ISBT 128 product codes to be implemented by Canadian Blood Services is provided in **Attachment 1**. The table also provides the ISBT 128 product codes for a number of components that are not produced by Canadian Blood Services but could potentially be imported from Héma-Québec and issued to hospitals served by Canadian Blood Services. The table provides the following information:

- ISBT 128 Product Code
- Mnemonic Text to appear on Packing Slip
- Text to appear on ISBT 128 component labels
- Additional information (e.g. Autologous Use Only, Directed Use Only)
- Extended label Codabar Product Code
- Current Codabar Product Code.

For those hospitals that will be taking advantage of the extended ISBT 128 component label, included in Attachment 1 is the list of product codes that will need to be added to product tables. **It is important to note** that the Codabar product code that will appear on the extended portion of the ISBT 128 component label does **not** correspond to the current Codabar product code for the component. The current Codabar product code has been provided for mapping purposes only. Hospitals whose information system will not be ISBT 128 ready at the time Canadian Blood Services implements will need to add the Extended Label Codabar Codes to their tables.

Current Codabar Codes

All components collected prior to the date Canadian Blood Services implements ISBT 128 will be labelled with the current component label with Codabar barcodes. Therefore, hospitals are reminded that their Laboratory Information System (once ISBT 128 ready) will need to be able to receive components labelled with the Codabar label as well as the ISBT 128 label. Since some Codabar labelled components will not expire for some time after implementation of ISBT 128 (e.g. 12 months for frozen plasma, 10 years for frozen/deglycerolized red blood cells). Hospital systems will need to be able to manage the dual inventory for an extended period.

Sample Component Labels

A representative set of sample component labels is provided in **Attachment 2**. The label set includes examples of whole blood, red blood cell, platelet, plasma and apheresis platelet and plasma labels and a variety of blood groups. Examples of Autologous, Directed and Autologous Biohazard labels are also included. These sample labels may be used to test your Laboratory Information System.

In order for hospitals to obtain a first generation printout of the labels for testing purposes, the sample labels will be available in pdf format for download from www.transfusionmedicine.ca. When printing the pdf documents, ensure that print scaling is set to 'None' in order to ensure the bar codes can be scanned.

Extended ISBT 128 Label

When ISBT 128 is implemented, Canadian Blood Services will label components using an extended ISBT label to allow time for hospitals to transition their laboratory software to the new ISBT 128 labelling standard. The extended portion of the ISBT label will provide the following critical information in eye readable text and Codabar (the format currently used) bar code format:

- Donation number
 - Current 7 digit Codabar donation number (6 digit sequential number plus check digit)
- Component code
 - The 5 digit Extended Label Codabar Code (refer to **Attachment 1**)
- Blood type
 - Current 4 digit Codabar code for blood group (ABO and Rh)
- Supplier code
 - The 4 digit unique supplier identifier consisting of the last 2 digits of the facility code and the 2 digit year
 - Note the barcode start/stop characters are: a/a.
- Expiration date
 - Current Codabar format

Please note: The packing slip (issue voucher) will **NOT** show the Extended Label Codabar Code or the Codabar donation number for donations collected after ISBT 128 implementation at Canadian Blood Services. The ISBT 128 Donation Number and ISBT 128 Product Code will appear on the packing slip for these components.

Phenotype Information

Phenotype information will appear on whole blood and red cell components in both bar code and eye readable format.

The rules for eye readable display of phenotype information will not change with ISBT 128 implementation and will remain as follows:

- **Bold font without underline:** two determinations conducted previously on two different donations
- **Bold font with underline:** two determinations, with the second performed on the current donation.

Further information about ISBT 128

Hospitals wanting additional, more detailed information on ISBT 128 can access the website of The International Council for Commonality in Blood Banking Automation, Inc. [at www.iccbba.org](http://www.iccbba.org).

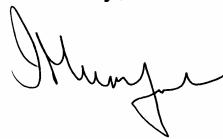
We are committed to ensuring that hospitals have timely and adequate information to prepare for ISBT 128 implementation. As our project proceeds, Canadian Blood Services will continue to share information and plans with hospitals in a timely manner. Information regarding ISBT 128 and its implementation at Canadian Blood Services has been posted to the Canadian Blood Services Transfusion Medicine web site at www.transfusionmedicine.ca.

If you have any additional questions regarding these documents, updates to your hospital Laboratory Information System or ISBT 128 implementation, please do not hesitate to contact your local Canadian Blood Services Hospital Liaison Specialist (**Attachment 3**).

Attachments:

1. ISBT 128 Product Codes and Label Text
2. Set of Sample ISBT 128 Component Labels
3. Canadian Blood Services Hospital Liaison Specialists

Sincerely,



Ian Mumford
Chief Operating Officer

Encl.