

INFORMATION ONLY

**Pediatric Platelet Transfusions and the Discontinuation
of the Production of CP2D Platelets LR in Saskatchewan**

Customer Letter # 2010-22

2010-07-05

Dear Colleague,

In the Fall of 2010, Canadian Blood Services will standardize production processes across all Centres and discontinue the production of CP2D Platelets LR in Saskatchewan. After this time single doses of CP2D Platelets LR for pediatric use will no longer be available. CPD Platelets, Pooled LR or Platelets Apheresis, LR will be the two products supplied by Canadian Blood Services. Pediatric platelet transfusions require smaller volumes of platelet concentrates than what is supplied by current production of Platelets, Pooled or Platelets, Apheresis. A common Hospital practice for pediatric transfusions is to remove aliquots from larger platelet component(s) using a spike and transfer pack, a syringe, or by sterile docking a transfer pack to the component to obtain an appropriate volume of platelets for transfusion.

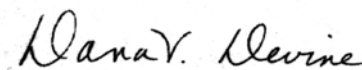
In anticipation of this transition, Canadian Blood Services will be performing a study at our Development Laboratory (NetCAD) on the *in vitro* platelet quality in storage containers typically used by hospitals for pediatric transfusions. Canadian Blood Services will be assessing the commonly used processes for obtaining platelet aliquots from Platelet Apheresis components and performing testing to determine platelet quality. The following systems will be included in these activities:

- gas permeable transfer packs which are licensed for storage up to 5 days
- non-gas permeable transfer packs used for short term storage under CSA standards.
- 60 mL syringes used for short term storage under CSA standards.

Further information on the findings of this study will be communicated prior to the discontinuation of the production of CP2D Platelets LR in Saskatchewan.

This Customer Letter can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the “Hospitals” section. If you have questions about this Customer Letter, please contact your local Hospital Liaison Specialist.

Sincerely,



Dana Devine, Ph.D.
Vice-President, Medical, Scientific & Research Affairs