



---

**ACTION REQUIRED**

Fresenius Kabi Platelet Bags  
Customer Letter # 2019-03

---

2019-04-06

Dear Colleagues:

Please find attached excerpts of a letter from Fresenius Kabi regarding pooled platelet bags.

Fresenius Kabi bags are utilized in the production of non-apheresis (buffy coat) platelet products in all provinces except Alberta. However, given national distribution patterns, these bags may be present in all hospital inventories.

The manufacturer has issued a recall of these bags (Lot # 41MC12GA00, 41ME01GA00, 41MH01GA00, 41MI30GA00) due to the presence of visible leaks near the ports, as indicated in the diagram below and in the attached letter. To date the manufacturer has not received any associated reports of bacterial contamination.



Replacement lots of blood bags have been ordered. However, to assure continued supply of platelets for medical treatment, Canadian Blood Services will continue to use its current inventory of bags in the interim. Until new lots of platelet bags are available, we will be conducting a detailed visual inspection for leakages as specified by Fresenius Kabi.

Until further notice, the manufacturer has also recommended that all units distributed by Canadian Blood Services and in inventory at hospital blood banks be subjected to a detailed visual inspection for leakage in the area of the twist-off port weld in the bags (see diagram), upon receipt and prior to transfusion.

Any bag that has evidence of leakage on visual inspection should not be used for transfusion and should be returned to Canadian Blood Services.

Please share a copy of this customer letter with healthcare professionals at your hospital who anyone who may require this information.

This customer letter can also be viewed at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca) in the “Hospitals Services” 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Isra Levy", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Isra Levy, MD  
Vice-President, Medical Affairs and Innovation