INFORMATION ONLY
Improvements to Donor Red Cell Phenotype Tags
Customer Letter # 2013-10

2013-04-08

Dear Customer,

We are writing to inform you of revisions made to tags used to identify RBC antigen typing results.

Customer Letter #2011-19 Donor Red Cell Phenotyping was distributed on 2011-07-18 to inform you of a change in our practice for phenotyping donors for red blood cell antigens. During the implementation of these changes, feedback was received that some customers found that our use of phenotype tags was not clear and may be causing confusion. The text on the tags has been revised to clarify what each tag is used for.

Canadian Blood Services will continue to use 2 different phenotype tags. PHENOTYPE TAG-TESTED ON PREVIOUS DONATION is printed on white card stock and is used to identify antigens that donor records show have only been tested on one prior occasion, and are therefore not printed on the component label.

This white tag will also be used to address historic testing data transferred to our PROGESA computer system. It will be affixed to deglycerolized red blood cell components, to identify antigens that even though printed on the component label, donor records show the antigen(s) have only been tested on one previous donation.

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PHENOTYPE TAG – TESTED ON PREVIOUS DONATION

Donor has been tested once previously and found to be negative for the encircled antigens

DONATION NUMBER
C E c e K Fya Fyb Jka Jkb S s Other:_________________________

Note: Phenotype should be confirmed prior to transfusion L040995 2013-02-20

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ÉTIQUEUTE PHÉNOTYPIQUE : ANALYSES SUR UN DON ANTÉRIEUR

Le sang du donneur a donné lieu à un résultat négatif pour les antigènes encerclés lors d’un don antérieur.

NUMÉRO DE DON
C E c e K Fya Fyb Jka Jkb S s Autres:_________________________

Remarque: Il est recommandé de confirmer le phénotype avant la transfusion. L040995 2013-02-20

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PHENOTYPE TAG – TESTED ON CURRENT DONATION is printed on buff colored card stock and is used to identify antigens that have been tested on a sample from the current donation.

The donor may or may not have been previously tested for these antigens.

The revised tags will be implemented on 2013-05-06 and be affixed to red blood cells collected on or after 2013-05-06. Components collected prior to this date may be issued to your facility with the previous version of these tags attached.

We have provided a job aid that you may find useful in communicating these changes to Transfusion Services Staff.

There will be future phenotype tag revisions required in 2014 as Canadian Blood Services finalizes the strategy for labeling with genotype and unlicensed reagent results.

This Customer Letter and any enclosures can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the “Hospitals” section.

If you have questions about this Customer Letter or you would like a PDF copy of the job aid, please contact your local Hospital Liaison Specialist. A list of Hospital Liaison Specialists is available on www.blood.ca.

Sincerely,

Ian Mumford
Chief Operating Officer

encl.

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