



To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations
Date: February 26, 2025
Re: Red Blood Cell Inventory Levels

Background

Red cell daily demand has been considerably higher than the typical (average) distributions. The red blood cell supply is below optimal levels with some blood types approaching critical inventory levels

Specific Low Inventory to Highlight:

O Positive Red Cell Inventory is at 40% of Optimal
O Negative Red Cell Inventory is at 28% of Optimal.
A Positive Red Cell Inventory is at 47% of Optimal.
A Negative Red Cell Inventory is at 37% of Optimal
B Negative Red Cell Inventory is at 41% of Optimal.

Impact to Clients

- Daily red cell orders may need to be triaged.
- If an order is needed for imminent transfusion, please communicate the urgency to hospital services.
- Red cell orders, including standing orders, could be reduced, re-scheduled or delayed.
- As a reminder, back orders are cancelled at midnight each day to minimize duplication and should be re-ordered as appropriate.

Client Action Required

- Notify appropriate staff and medical director as applicable. Implement a triage process to help manage the current supply.
- Please cooperate with hospital services as blood orders are triaged.
- Be prepared to release red cells or platelets to meet trauma and/or definite transfusion needs *elsewhere* as the blood center inventory may not be able to support.
- Please encourage family, friends and colleagues to donate blood. The following toolkit is available for your use to help drive awareness and blood donations.
[Carter BloodCare Share the Need.](#)

Questions and Additional Information:

Please contact hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org with any concerns.