



To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations
Date: February 5, 2021
Re: Delayed Testing and Blood Supply

Background

On Friday January 29th, 2021, we were notified that our testing laboratory is currently experiencing a delay in reporting viral marker testing results due to the implementation of a new testing system. Results are being reported to Carter BloodCare on a delayed schedule causing Carter BloodCare to also be delayed in labelling and making products available. We currently are experiencing a backlog of products that are waiting for testing release followed by labelling to be made available.

Impact to Client

- Blood products have been very limited this week as the normal release of collected blood products is not coming out of labelling to be made available to distribute.
- Daily product stock orders will be filled after units are released from processing and labeling. Please expect a delay in receipt.
- If an order is needed for imminent transfusion, please communicate the urgency to hospital services for triage.
- Product rotation and standing orders could be postponed or discontinued until the supply is deemed stable.

Client Action Required

- Reduce inventory levels to preserve the limited supply.
- Notify appropriate staff and medical director as applicable. Implement a triage process to help manage the minimal supply.
- Please cooperate with hospital services as blood orders are triaged.
- Back orders are cancelled at midnight and must be re-ordered as appropriate.
- Be prepared to release red blood cells to meet trauma and/or definite transfusion needs elsewhere should the blood center inventory not be able to support.

Questions and Additional Information:

Please contact hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org with any concerns. By working together we can safely sustain operations.