

8 March 2011

Dear Colleague,

Re: Introduction of Leucocyte Depleted Apheresis Platelets in Platelet Additive Solution

The Blood Service is pleased to announce the phased introduction of a new component, ***Apheresis Platelets in SSP+, leucocyte depleted***, commencing in May 2011.

This new component, platelets collected by apheresis technology suspended in a platelet additive solution (PAS), will replace our current apheresis platelet component which is suspended in 100% plasma. However, as the introduction will be phased, there will be a period during which both apheresis platelets in plasma and apheresis platelets in PAS will be available concurrently, i.e., a period of mixed inventory.

The platelet additive solution that will be used for the preparation of the apheresis platelets in PAS is MacoPharma SSP+, i.e., the same solution as that currently used by the Blood Service in the preparation of pooled platelets. The residual plasma content is approximately 30% for pooled platelets and approximately 40%* for apheresis platelets in PAS.

Apheresis platelets stored in PAS provide the following clinical benefits compared to platelets stored in 100% plasma.

1. Lower risk of allergic reactions to plasma proteins.
2. Lower risk of transfusion-associated acute lung injury (TRALI).
3. Lower risk of haemolysis secondary to high titre anti-A/B haemolysins if transfused to ABO non-identical recipients.

Additionally, Blood Service research data show that apheresis platelets collected and stored in SSP+ are equivalent, if not superior, to platelets stored in 100% plasma at day 5 of storage.

The component codes and label text, component specifications, expiry and storage requirements for the new apheresis platelet components are detailed below.

Note that the component specifications, expiry and storage requirements for Apheresis Platelets in SSP+, Leucocyte Depleted are the same as those for our current Apheresis Platelet, Leucocyte Depleted component.

Component Codes and Label Text:

Component Name	NBMS Descriptor	NBMS Code
Apheresis Platelets in SSP+, Leucocyte Depleted	Platelets Apheresis in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12310
	Platelets 1 of 2 Apheresis in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12311
	Platelets 2 of 2 Apheresis in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12312

* Preliminary data

Component Specifications:

Parameter	Specification
Volume	100 - 400mL
Platelet count	> 200 x 10 ⁹ / unit
pH at expiry	6.4 - 7.4
Leucocyte count	< 1.0 x 10 ⁶ / unit

Expiry and Storage Requirements:

Expiry: 5 day
Storage temperature: 20 - 24°C

Platelets must be agitated gently and continuously in a single layer on a platelet agitator.

Paediatric Product Codes and Label Text:

Component Type	NBMS Descriptor	NBMS Code
Paediatric Platelets Apheresis in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	Platelets 1 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12341
	Platelets 2 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12342
	Platelets 3 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12343
	Platelets 4 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12344
	Platelets 1 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12345
	Platelets 2 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12346
	Platelets 3 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12347
	Platelets 4 of 4 Apheresis Paediatric in SSP+ Leucocyte Depleted	12348

Component Specifications:

Parameter	Specification
Volume	40 - 60mL
Platelet count	> 60 x 10 ⁹ / unit
pH at expiry	6.4 - 7.4
Leucocyte count	< 1.0 x 10 ⁶ / unit

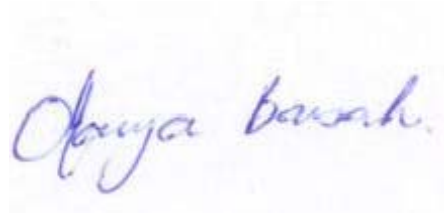
Expiry and Storage Requirements:

Expiry: 5 day
Storage temperature: 20 - 24°C

Platelets must be agitated gently and continuously in a single layer on a platelet agitator.

The relevant component barcodes are provided on the accompanying sheet (Start code A0. Stop code 3B). Should you have any queries regarding Apheresis platelets in SSP+, leucocyte depleted, please contact your local TMS team.

Yours sincerely,



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