



Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

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Date: 17 October 2017

Our Ref:

Letter Ref: HEV labelling

Enquiries to Ryan Evans

Extension **GRO-C**

To: Blood Bank Managers, HTC Chairs, Transfusion Practitioners, Medical Directors,
Hospitals served by SNBTS;
Blood Bank Working Group, SNBTS Consultants and Associate Specialists;
Members of the Scottish Clinical Transfusion Advisory Committee

Dear Colleagues

Removal of the 'HEV negative' label from blood components

As you will be aware, SNBTS started universal screening of blood components for Hepatitis E Virus (HEV) on 1st March 2017. From July 2017, we are happy to report that all blood components within SNBTS and hospital blood banks are HEV negative. Thanks for your support in achieving this goal.

With effect from 7th November 2017 SNBTS will stop printing the 'HEV negative' comment on blood component labels:

- The labelling change will take effect on this day; however customers should be aware that it will take some time before they see the change on all components. There will be mixed stock for a time and we stress that all components within the supply chain are screened HEV negative regardless of status on the label
- This change in labelling will bring HEV in line with the other mandatory markers of infection that are screened but not stated on the label
- Any component that is not screened negative for HEV is automatically discarded
- Removing HEV result from labels will maximise the space to print other information e.g. irradiated, CMV negative

Action required

Please review and update any relevant procedures, policies and protocols that specify the selection of components labelled as HEV negative.



Chair
Chief Executive
Director [Name]

Professor Elizabeth Ireland
Colin Sinclair

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service.

Traceline Users

The automatic application of the HEV negative patient profile to patient groups, such as neonates, will cease with effect from 7th November 2017.

Yours faithfully

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