

## February 14, 2022 Critical yellow and red level blood inventory medical staff update.

The American Red Cross Inventory remains in critical inventory. The American Red Cross (ARC), our main blood supplier has changed our weekly allocations of all blood types. Our average daily use of some blood types exceeds the weekly blood allocation from the ARC. In addition, we can no longer regularly rely on ARC to replenish our blood inventory for massive transfusion use in trauma. In order to build our inventory to have enough blood for routine hospital use and massive transfusion protocols, we need to take measures to increase our blood inventory.

The blood inventory levels are considered: green (normal), yellow (decreased) and red (critical). An inventory dashboard is communicated twice daily on CapsLive. These levels will determine which transfusion thresholds are in effect.

The Blood Management and Practice Committee met on January 13 2022. We decided at the yellow inventory levels we will adopt the threshold for transfusion that we previously adopted for the red level inventory. Life threatening anemia will always be transfused, but symptomatic stable patients are urged to try other anemia treatment alternatives.

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Hemoglobin Threshold for Transfusion</b>
Hemodynamically stable patients including ICU patients, gastrointestinal bleeding	6g/dL
Pre-existing CAD, obstetrical patients	7 g/dL
Cardiac Surgery (post)	7 g/dL
Acute Coronary Syndromes	8-10 g/dL

### Hemoglobin Criteria at Critical/Red Level Inventory

Additional decisions at Red level inventory are:

- Age of childbearing women definition is decreased to  $\leq 45$  from  $<50$  years for blood management of Rh negative women
- MTP 2: rounds issued and then re-evaluate
- ECMO: 8 units given, then re-evaluate

Our laboratory team continues to work on measures to obtain blood inventory from other suppliers. Our surgical teams will review surgical cases and ensure the patients are managed with alternative methods to blood transfusion or that needed blood is on hand prior to surgery. The Red Cross has several planned blood drives in our region and team members are encouraged to make an appointment and donate. Donation information can be found on CapsLive and by visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

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Blood Bank Director and Chair of Blood Management and Practice Committee