NATIONAL INVENTORY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PROJECT

Pilot Progress Update #7 - August 2014

The National Inventory Management Framework (NIMF) project is a collaboration between the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, the National Blood Authority and participating proof of concept and pilot health provider sites. The objective of the project is to identify guidance relating to levels for the blood sector and develop better processes and guidelines for effective inventory management.

- The National Inventory Management Framework for red blood cells project pilots have been completed at all seven sites. The pilot sites were Flinders Medical Centre (SA), Royal Hobart Hospital (TAS), The Townsville Hospital (QLD), John Hunter Hospital (NSW), Royal Prince Alfred (NSW), Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (WA) and Melbourne Pathology (VIC).

- The project team has completed the post-pilot analysis, and provided a report to the project Steering Committee.

- A debrief workshop was held with available representatives from each of the pilot sites to discuss the initial findings from the national pilot and suggested better practices for inventory management.

- The project team are recommending wider implementation of NIMF for red blood cells. This recommendation will be considered by the Jurisdictional Blood Committee. The implementation plan includes making available the red blood cell stock calculation as well as the red blood cell module to the Managing Blood and Blood Product Inventory Guidelines for Australian Health Providers (http://www.blood.gov.au/inv-mgt-guideline).

- Subject to approvals, it is expected a staggered implementation approach will commence late in 2014.

The project team extends its sincere thanks to the participating laboratory managers and their staff for their excellent cooperation and engagement throughout the pilot period.

- The project team has commenced preparation for NIMF for platelets. It is expected that proof of concepts for NIMF for platelets will commence late in 2014.