

PLATELET COLLECTION LEVELS

Platelet collections are now at **Level 1** effective immediately. However, Vitalant's **group O red blood cell (RBC)** inventory remains constrained at **Level 2 status**.

Vitalant is experiencing inconsistent collection levels of group O RBCs. We continue to closely monitor and will communicate any changes as soon as possible.

Below are inventory level status updates and related requested inventory management actions:

- Please closely monitor group O-positive and negative RBCs.
- Reach out to local Vitalant contacts if you have a surge in demand.
- Please use STAT orders for immediate patient needs.
- Reach out to Vitalant medical staff for patient blood treatment assessments, as needed.

CATEGORY	PREVIOUS STATUS	CURRENT STATUS
O-	Level 2	Level 2
O+	Level 2	Level 2
AB-	Stable	Stable
AB+	Stable	Stable
A-	Stable	Stable
A+	Stable	Stable
B-	Stable	Stable
B+	Stable	Stable
Pooled Cryo	Stable	Stable
Platelets	Level 2	Level 1
AB Plasma	Stable	Stable

* For a full description of each status level, see the legend below.

Actions Required for Responsible Stewardship

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Your local teams will remain in close contact to discuss your order(s) and collaborate to best meet patient needs at your facility. **We ask that you revisit your current platelet and group O-positive and negative management practices to ensure the following actions are still in place in your facility:**

- Assess your current inventory of group O-positive and negative RBCs. Order to maintain your safety stock levels for platelets and group O RBCs.
- You may experience delays to STOCK orders for group O-positive and negative RBCs. Your routine orders will be metered until group O RBC inventories begins to recover.
- Continue to be mindful of group O RBC use. O-negative RBCs should be used for O-negative patients only, whenever feasible. Trauma patients should be switched to type-specific RBC transfusions as soon as possible.
- Communicate this information as needed throughout your organization.

Thank You

We will keep our valued hospital partners updated about these issues and changes to inventory management practices. Thank you for your partnership in stewarding the blood supply and prioritizing emergent patient blood needs. Please reach out to your **local Vitalant account teams** with questions.

Inventory Levels Overview

For quick reference, see below for a description of Level 1, 2 and 3 inventory statuses to share within your organization. Specific instructions may vary depending on the situation, but these are the high-level definitions and requested hospital actions. Specific products impacted will be provided in one-to-one, fax, email, or other communications to you regarding inventory levels.

Level 1

We are below normal inventory levels with expected minimal delivery delays. Hospitals have product; however, we may need to relocate inventories.

No Action Required

- a) Informational only. You may experience slight delays in delivery times

Level 2

We are well below normal inventory levels and cannot immediately fill stock orders. Hospitals have reduced levels in inventory.

Action Required

- a) Communicate this information as needed.
- b) Assess your current inventory. Maintain minimal levels. DO NOT order extra components that are not immediately required.
- c) Delays to all STOCK orders can be expected.
- d) Vitalant is currently maintaining a minimal supply for urgent STAT orders only.
- e) Vitalant may need to relocate inventory from your hospital to another.

Level 3

Inventory has reached critical levels. Vitalant inventory will only be used in the most severe cases. With advanced notice, Vitalant staff may relocate inventory from one hospital to another. An extended shortage is anticipated..

Action Required

- a) Communicate this information throughout your facility.
- b) Extended delivery delays to orders can be expected.
- c) Consider postponement of elective surgeries that may require transfusions.
- d) Blood products affected by the shortage (listed above) will only be delivered after consultation by a Vitalant medical director. Please call Hospital Services to arrange a consultation. Other products not impacted by the shortage may be ordered as usual.