

August 6, 2018

Platelet wastage is a significant problem for Canadian Blood Services and transfusion services across Canada. Discard of apheresis (single donor) platelets is of particular concern, as these are significantly more costly to produce than pooled platelets. It is believed that hospital practices involving handling of platelets by ABO and Rh group may be contributing to platelet wastage. To encourage appropriate utilization of platelets by ABO and Rh group, as well as appropriate utilization of apheresis platelet units, the NAC endorses the ICTMG guidance on platelet transfusion for patients with hypoproliferative anemia (Nahirniak et al. (2015). Guidance on Platelet Transfusion for Patients With Hypoproliferative Thrombocytopenia. *Trans Med Rev* 2015 Jan;29(1):3-13.)

The guidelines are available on the ICTMG website at:

<https://www.ictmg.org/clinical-guidelines-systematic-revi>