

March 19, 2020

Dr. Oksana Prokopchuk-Gauk
Chair, National Advisory Committee (NAC)
coordinator@nacblood.ca

Dr. Prokopchuk-Gauk,

During this COVID-19 pandemic, the Network of Rare Blood Disorder Organizations (NRBDO) and our 12 member organizations are concerned for the health and well-being of patients who rely on regular hospital-based infusions.

We would like to be able to share with patients what measures are being taken to protect patients, especially those who are older are immune-compromised patients or who have other underlying medical conditions, who must still go to the hospital for their treatment.

Some hospitals are communicating this information while others are not, and some patients are anxious to go to the hospital and potentially expose themselves and their families to this virus. We would appreciate if NAC could share the protocols being followed for transfusions.

We will also be asking our member organizations to amplify the call for blood donations during this time as a potential shortage looms.

Thank you for your leadership in managing the safety and supply of blood and blood products in Canada during this uncertain time.

Sincerely,



Erin Harder
Acting Chair,
Network of Rare Blood Disorder Organizations (NRBDO)