



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

MH 78:44/1

MOH Circular No. 53/2023

10 Aug 2023

Licensees Providing or Intending to Provide Ambulatory Surgical Centre Service

ARRANGEMENT FOR SUPPLY OF BLOOD FOR EMERGENCY TRANSFUSION

This circular is to inform licensees on the arrangement for the supply of blood in the event of any emergencies for transfusion.

2. Under the Healthcare Services (Ambulatory Surgical Centre Service) Regulation 38(1)¹, licensees of ASCS are required to ensure access to a supply of emergency blood that is readily available for use at each approved permanent premises in the event of an emergency.

Existing ASCS

3. Blood Services Group (“BSG”), Health Sciences Authority (“HSA”) has been supplying emergency blood to licensed ASCS. With effect from 1 Jan 2024, BSG will cease pre-transfusion testing service and will no longer supply emergency blood to ASCS. Instead, ASCS licensees may obtain its blood supply from licensees of Acute Hospital Service (“AHS”). Please approach any of the licensees listed in **Annex A** to establish a formal arrangement for the supply of emergency blood as soon as possible, and no later than 30 Sep 2023.

4. The current arrangement with BSG will remain in effect until 31 Dec 2023 or when the ASCS licensees established a formal arrangement with a licensee listed in the **Annex A**, whichever is earlier. We kindly request ASCS licensees’ cooperation to promptly inform the Ministry and BSG as soon as the contractual agreement has been established with a licensee listed in **Annex A**. Should you encounter any difficulties in finding a licensee for the supply of emergency blood, please also inform the Ministry by 30 Sept 2023.

New ASCS

5. With effect from 14 Aug 2023, BSG will not be accepting requests for in-principle approval for the supply of emergency blood. Entities intending to provide ASCS should approach the licensees listed in **Annex A** to establish a formal arrangement for emergency blood supply first.

¹38.—(1) A licensee must make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the licensee has access to a supply of blood that is readily available for use at each approved permanent premises in the event of an emergency.



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6. Currently, you are sending the patient's pre-transfusion testing specimen to HSA when requesting for blood. In the future, you should send the pre-transfusion testing specimen to the AHS supplying the emergency blood to you instead. In AHS with on-site Transfusion Medicine clinical laboratory service, pre-transfusion testing will be performed by this AHS. Where the blood is supplied to you from an AHS without on-site Transfusion Medicine clinical laboratory service, your patient's pre-transfusion testing specimen and a segment of the blood will be referred to an AHS with Transfusion Medicine for post-issuance compatibility testing by your partner AHS without on-site Transfusion Medicine. You may wish to note the difference in the backend process on pre-transfusion testing. We have also made the distinction in the two categories of AHS for your easy reference.

7. We have also separately informed licensees of AHS to render their kind assistance to you. Should you require further clarification or information, please contact MOH via email at HCSA_Enquiries@moh.gov.sg.

Thank you.



ADJ ASSOC PROF (DR) RAYMOND CHUA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH
HEALTH REGULATION GROUP
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Cc CEO, Health Sciences Authority
Group Director, Blood Services Group

(I) AHS with Onsite Transfusion Medicine Clinical Laboratory:

S/N	Name of AHS	POC	Email
1	Alexandra Hospital	Dr Lee Shir Ying	Shir_Ying_LEE@nuhs.edu.sg
2	Changi General Hospital	Noor Ashraf Ardeefia Kamaludin	noor_ashraf@cgh.com.sg
3	KK Women's and Children's Hospital	A/Prof Joyce Lam	joyce.lam.c.m@singhealth.com.sg
4	Khoo Teck Puat Hospital	Siti Thuraiya Binte Abdul Latiff	latiff.siti.thuraiya@ktph.com.sg
5	National University Hospital	Karen Lim Pei Lun	karen_pl_lim@nuhs.edu.sg
6	Ng Teng Fong General Hospital	Gloria Chen	gloria_chen@nuhs.edu.sg
7	Sengkang General Hospital	Jason Chay	jason.chay.wai.mun@singhealth.com.sg
8	Singapore General Hospital	Amy Tan Chih Wei	amy.tan.c.w@sggh.com.sg
9	Tan Tock Seng Hospital	Dr Ong Kiat Hoe	kiat_hoe_ong@ttsh.com.sg
10	Mount Alvernia Hospital	Lim Hock Huat	lim.hock.huat@mtalvernia.sg
11	Farrer Park Hospital	Caleb Tan	calebtan@farrerpark.com
12	Mount Elizabeth Hospital	Judy Benetta Ong	judy.onglp@parkwaylabs.com.sg
13	Raffles Hospital (with effect from Oct 2023)	Pajarillaga Anastacia Maraan	anastacia_pajarillaga@rafflesmedical.com

(II) AHS without Onsite Transfusion Medicine Clinical Laboratory:

S/N	Name of AHS	POC	Email
1	Mount Elizabeth (Novena) Hospital	Judy Benetta Ong	judy.onglp@parkwaylabs.com.sg
2	Parkway East Hospital	Judy Benetta Ong	judy.onglp@parkwaylabs.com.sg
3	Gleneagles Hospital	Judy Benetta Ong	judy.onglp@parkwaylabs.com.sg
4	Thomson Medical Centre	Quake Siew Hua	quakesiewhua@thomsonmedical.com