

## INFORMATION ONLY

### Introduction of X-ray Irradiation

Customer Letter # 2021-09

2021-02-08

Dear Colleagues:

Canadian Blood Services has obtained Health Canada approval to begin using an X-ray irradiation device. As a result, either gamma or X-ray irradiation will be used to irradiate blood products. The objective is to transition fully to X-ray irradiation as the gamma irradiators are phased out.

There are no changes to component codes or expiry dates, however the Rad-Sure indicator label for X-ray is different as shown below.

Components irradiated using X-ray irradiation will have an XR 15Gy Rad-Sure label:



Components irradiated using gamma irradiation will continue to have the 15Gy Rad-Sure:



The Red Blood Cell and Platelet Circular of Information have been revised. The changes are described below:

Relevant Section	Previous (Last Updated June 2020)	Current (Last Updated January 2021)
Modification and additional information: Table 4. Modified Components Irradiation Description	Cells are exposed to gamma irradiation.	Cells are exposed to ionizing radiation (i.e., gamma or x-ray).

Please share a copy of this customer letter with healthcare professionals at your hospital who might be interested in this information.

This customer letter can also be viewed at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca) in the “Hospitals Services” section. If you have questions about this letter, or if you require it in an accessible format, please contact your local hospital liaison specialist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Howe', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Howe  
Director, Supply Chain Process Management