
INFORMATION ONLY

**Chagas Disease Lookback
Customer Letter #2010-26**

2010-07-27

Dear Customer,

In May 2010, Canadian Blood Services began testing all donors identified to be at risk for Chagas Disease. Please be advised that lookback investigations will be performed on all previous donations from all confirmed positive donors.

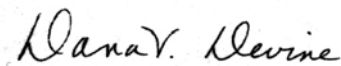
Chagas Disease is usually acquired in childhood in endemic countries and if not treated, chronic asymptomatic infection can occur. In documented cases of transfusion transmission, platelets have been the product implicated. Over 1,000 Chagas positive donors have been identified to date in the U.S.; however, no cases of transmission through transfusion have been identified by the American Red Cross since testing of donors began.

Included is a *Fact Sheet on Chagas Disease* for your information as Attachment 1.

This Customer Letter and Attachment can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the “Hospitals - Customer Letters” section.

If you have questions about this Customer Letter, please contact the Canadian Blood Services Lookback Traceback Manager (416 313-4480).

Sincerely,



Dana V. Devine, PhD
Vice-President, Medical, Scientific & Research Affairs

Encl.