

## Appendix 1: Escalation process for red blood cell products

Phases	Red Blood Cell Definition	Desired Outcome
<b>WHITE ALERT</b>	<p>Invoked when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An acute shortage has occurred in more than one jurisdiction OR</li> <li>A shortage in one jurisdiction will impact on more than one jurisdiction (i.e. initiating jurisdiction has had &lt; five (5) days stock for eight (8) days).</li> </ul>	To increase the collection and production to build stock levels while meeting demand for emergency services and the majority of other clinical requirements.
<b>YELLOW ACTIVATE</b>	<p>Invoked when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions in white alert phase have not rectified the situation so that the plan can be deactivated</li> <li>The initiating jurisdiction has &lt; three (3) days stocks</li> <li>National stock levels are between three (3) – five (5) days</li> </ul>	<p>Decrease non-urgent product use so that available products can be redirected to meet life threatening and/or other agreed priorities based on appropriate clinical assessment</p> <p>Consider prioritising surgery to minimise blood use.</p> <p>If chronic shortage, consider triage of medical indications for transfusion.</p>
<b>RED ACTIVATE</b>	<p>Invoked when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions from white alert and yellow activated have not rectified the situation</li> <li>National stock levels are &lt; three (3) days</li> </ul>	<p>Blood use is triaged for life-threatening and other clinically assessed priorities.</p> <p>Blood use in elective surgery is not allowed and procedures are compliant with jurisdictional emergency arrangements.</p> <p>If chronic shortage, implement national consistency in triage of medical and surgical blood use.</p>
<b>DE-ACTIVATE</b>	Fresh blood stocks have returned to a pre-white alert level that is acceptable on a national level.	NBSCP is improved for possible future crises and, if possible, new measures are introduced to decrease the likelihood or impact of a similar situation.

National Blood Supply Contingency Plan <https://www.blood.gov.au/system/files/documents/nba-nbscp.pdf>

Note: All references to stock for red blood cells denotes the combined available product of both the Blood Service and approved health providers (ie. hospitals)