

MEMO

To: Maternal Newborn Program
From: Frances Jones, Coordinator BC Women's Provincial Milk Bank
Kim Thornton, Program Manager, Antepartum and Postpartum – Maternal Newborn Program
Date: March 19, 2020
Re: Pasteurize Donor Human Milk (PDHM) Usage – Pandemic Planning

Effective immediately the distribution of PDHM to all hospitals EXCEPT the four Level 3 NICUs in BC will be stopped.

As of this week the amount of raw donor milk being received at BC Women's Provincial Milk Bank has dropped to nil. In order to conserve the current supply of PDHM for the sickest infants in the province, we have stopped the distribution of PDHM to all hospitals EXCEPT to the four Level 3 NICUs in BC, this includes, Surrey Memorial, Royal Columbian, Victoria General and BC Women's.

BC Women's Hospital is recommending the following criteria to prioritize PDHM in Level 3 NICUs:

1. NICU babies less than 32 weeks or 1500 grams, to be provided until 32 weeks or a weight of 1800 grams.
2. Post GI surgical babies for up to 4 weeks.
3. Post medical NEC for up to 2 weeks, if not meeting criteria 1 or 2.
4. Severely growth restricted babies for up to 2 weeks, if not meeting criteria 1 or 2.

The status of PDHM supply will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and any changes to these recommendations will be communicated.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Milk Bank, please email Frances Jones at Fjones@cw.bc.ca

If you have any questions or concerns related to PDHM in the NICU, please email Megan Bolton at mbolton@cw.bc.ca