



SENT BY EMAIL

Québec City, April 11, 2024

TO PRESIDENTS AND CEOS OF QUÉBEC PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS

TO DIRECTORS OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AT QUÉBEC PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS

Subject: On December 2, 2024, Héma-Québec will become the sole human tissue supplier—a central access point to fulfill all the Québec health network’s needs.

To whom it may concern:

On January 28, 2022, we announced that Héma-Québec would be taking over all human tissue supply for Québec hospitals. Today, we would like to inform you that this change will be taking effect on **December 2, 2024**.

As of that date, Héma-Québec will be solely responsible for supplying and distributing human tissue across the entire network, thereby consolidating its role in delivering human tissue products.

Héma-Québec has been managing human tissue since 2001 and already collects and prepares most tissue in Québec. The organization is confidently and enthusiastically assuming its new responsibilities and wants all health network partners to know how important your role and cooperation are for a successful transition.

“Now that the date for the entry into force of the mandate has been set, the countdown has officially started and we are taking all the necessary precautions at every level to keep things running smoothly during the transition,” says Dr. Marc Germain, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Innovation. “The goal is to maintain a safe, adequate supply of human tissue in Québec at all times. Héma-Québec is asking all stakeholders involved in the process for their help ensuring a successful transition so that it can continue to efficiently meet the needs of medical teams.”

This new way of operating will simplify management of the human tissue supply, which will help us meet hospitals’ needs more effectively, improve product traceability and enhance patient safety.

To ensure a smooth transition, it is essential for all network members to align with the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux directives regarding the exclusive procurement of human tissue by Héma-Québec, which will put an end to hospitals' direct purchases from other suppliers starting on December 2, 2024.

Héma-Québec's human tissue product offering is determined based on the recommendations of associations of physicians and experts to ensure that this new way of working aligns with the network's needs. Complete details about the products and costs will be available in summer 2024.

More detailed communications about product ordering, delivery, training and distribution will be sent to you shortly to help guide your preparations between now and December 2, 2024. Please read them carefully to help make your transition as smooth as possible.

Please note that between now and December 2, 2024, you are no longer permitted to sign new agreements with external suppliers without consulting Héma-Québec. To do so, please contact Héma-Québec's human tissue acquisition strategy department at approvisionnement.tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca.

As a reminder, ongoing contracts with external suppliers will be honoured until their scheduled expiry date. Contracts ending before September 30, 2024, will be extended until December 31, 2024.

Kindly pass along this information to the medical staff at your institution, whether or not they deal with suppliers of human tissue products.

If you would like to receive more information or share your comments or concerns, feel free to contact us at our centralized email address, tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca, which will put you in direct contact with the managers of our human tissue team.

Sincerely,



Étienne Fissette
Director of Human Tissue Operations
Héma-Québec



Amaury Doger de Speville
Director of Acquisition Strategy, Human Tissue
Héma-Québec

c.c.: Marc Germain, Vice President, Medical Affairs and Innovation – Héma-Québec
Christine Ouimet, Vice President, Supply Chain – Héma-Québec