

SENT BY EMAIL

Québec City, January 28, 2022

TO PRESIDENTS AND CEOS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
INSTITUTIONS

To whom it may concern:

Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services, has granted Héma-Québec an exclusive mandate to supply human tissue to health and social services institutions. This announcement cements Héma-Québec's role as a collector and provider of human tissue, which it first took on in 2001.

The decision to grant Héma-Québec the sole supplier mandate is the result of a recommendation from Québec's biovigilance committee. In 2018, the committee issued a notice requesting that Héma-Québec be granted exclusive rights to supply human tissue to improve product traceability and monitor adverse effects following transplants.

Héma-Québec already supplies nearly 50% of the human tissue that Québec hospitals need through its work in human tissue collection and processing. To meet all their needs, hospitals use other suppliers, most of whom are in the United States. With its new exclusive mandate to supply human tissue, Héma-Québec will implement an optimized international purchasing system and a centralized register for product tracing.

Québec hospitals will have just over two years to make the necessary adjustments with their current suppliers. They will have a team from Héma-Québec who will support them in this endeavour. A province-wide coordination initiative will be rolled out shortly to optimize the management of our human tissue operations while working to the highest standards of safety and quality.

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Héma-Québec's first step will be to take a complete inventory of human tissue and medical devices manufactured from human tissue that are currently used in Québec hospitals. To this end, we are asking you to designate a resource within your institution with whom Héma-Québec staff will work to build an accurate profile of how these products are used.

Kindly send the contact information for your institution's resource to tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca by February 28, 2022.

In closing, we encourage you to read the attached FAQ. For more information, please contact one of the following individuals:

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Sincerely,



Lucie Opatrny, M.D., M.Sc., M.H.C.M.
Assistant Deputy Minister

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c.c. Dominique Savoie, MSSH
Directors of professional services at public health and social services institutions
Assistant presidents and CEOs of public health and social services institutions

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