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Québec City, July 19, 2024

TO PROCUREMENT MANAGERS AT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS

Subject: Héma-Québec's transition to a sole distributor role – Human tissue procurement in private clinics

To whom it may concern:

As you know, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux has granted Héma-Québec exclusive rights to process and distribute human tissue to Québec public health and social services institutions.

Starting on December 2, 2024, Héma-Québec will be solely responsible for supplying and distributing human tissue to Québec's entire health care system. These new responsibilities are in line with Héma-Québec's mission to efficiently meet the needs of the Québec population for quality blood and other biological products of human origin.

Changes impacting private clinic operations

Héma-Québec was granted the sole distributor mandate following a recommendation from Québec's biovigilance committee. The goal is to simplify supply management, monitor for adverse effects and improve the traceability of human tissue products for Québec's health care system. As a result, Héma-Québec's mandate will also apply to surgeries that are subcontracted to the private sector.

This means private clinics will be required to place their orders with Héma-Québec for any human tissue used in surgeries subcontracted by Québec's healthcare system.

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 put an end to direct purchases from other suppliers. Please read on for some important measures you should take to prepare your institution for subcontracting out to private clinics:

- 1- Inform private clinics that have contracts with you or that perform surgeries for the public system upon request about the scope of Héma-Québec's mandate and their obligation to follow government guidelines and comply with Héma-Québec's mandate.
- **2- Send Héma-Québec the list of private clinics** (including contact information) so that we can get in touch with them to explain the mandate and answer any questions.
- **3- Provide Héma-Québec with a list of the types of surgeries** that your institution subcontracts and the annual number by category (if the data is available).

Héma Québec has been around for 25 years and boasts a wealth of experience in human tissue management that it has gained over that time. With the current strategy, you can rest assured that Héma-Québec is committed to making every effort to ensure that your medical teams have all the human tissue products they need to provide quality care at all times.

For more information, feel free to contact us at our centralized email address, approvisionnement.tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca, which will put you in direct contact with the managers of our human tissue team.

Sincerely,

Amaury Doger de Speville

Director of Acquisition Strategy, Human Tissue Héma-Québec