

BY E-MAIL

Québec, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

TO THE HUMAN TISSUE SUPPLIERS DEALING WITH ONE OR MORE  
INSTITUTIONS IN QUÉBEC'S HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES SYSTEM

Dear Sir or Madam,

Héma-Québec's mission is to efficiently meet the Québec public's needs for high-quality blood and other human biological products, including plasma, stem cells, and breastmilk, as well as certain recombinant products and monoclonal antibodies. Héma-Québec also serves as strategic partner for human tissue needs by managing the sole public human tissue bank in Québec. As such, Héma-Québec currently recovers, transforms and distributes most of the human tissues used in Québec's healthcare institutions.

In August 2021, Mr. Christian Dubé, Québec Minister of Health and Social Services, entrusted Héma-Québec, as the agency responsible for the collection and supply of human tissues, with the exclusive mandate to procure human tissues for the institutions in the health and social services system (RSSS). As of fall 2024, Héma-Québec will also serve as the exclusive distributor for the human tissues currently ordered from other suppliers by institutions in Québec's RSSS. All future human tissue procurement contracts must therefore be entered into between the different suppliers and Héma-Québec.

The decision to appoint Héma-Québec as the sole supplier stems from a recommendation by the Comité de biovigilance du Québec. It reflects the desire to ensure better product tracking through a centralized register and to monitor the possible adverse effects following human tissue transplantation. In addition to enabling substantial economies of scale for Québec's overall health and social services system, this change will contribute to improving needs analysis/planning and optimizing the means for procuring and distributing human tissues. Moreover, this mandate encompasses the development of necessary product quality and safety assurance procedures.

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The contracts you currently hold as a human tissue supplier or distributor with Québec's health and social services institutions shall be maintained until they expire. Contracts ending before September 30, 2024, may be extended under the same terms and conditions for a period ending no later than December 31, 2024.

In the event that your company is called upon to deal with Héma-Québec, you will find in the Appendix suppliers' eligibility requirements for contracts in Québec. We invite you to examine them and to take any necessary steps so that your company may meet all the requirements outlined therein. To that effect, Héma-Québec will be available to provide you with any necessary assistance.


Do not hesitate to e-mail your questions concerning Héma-Québec's mandate to the following address: [tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca](mailto:tissushumains@hema-quebec.qc.ca).

Sincerely,



Stéphane Bergeron, M.D.  
Assistant Deputy Minister

encl. 1

c.c. Ms. Nathalie Fagnan, Héma-Québec  


Our ref.: 23-AU-00441