



# ABC NEWSLETTER

CURRENT EVENTS AND TRENDS IN BLOOD SERVICES

Visit ABC's Web site at: [www.americasblood.org](http://www.americasblood.org)

2016 #20

June 10, 2016

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**Please Note:** The Newsletter will be getting a new look! Expect to see some layout and formatting changes coming soon.

## Adverse Reactions from Apheresis Platelet Concentrates (APCSs) versus Pooled Platelet Concentrates (PPCSs)

Approximately 2.2 million platelet doses are transfused annually in the U.S., [according to the Department of Health and Human Services, with more than 80 percent of those doses from apheresis](#), and the remainder are whole blood derived platelet concentrates from whole blood donations. Historically, whole blood derived platelets fell from favor, largely due to increased risks from infection related to multiple donor exposures inherent in pooling. Adverse reactions were notably higher in a French study for patients receiving APCSs over those who received buffy coat PPCS.

Platelets are collected either through apheresis, known as plateletpheresis, or through whole blood donations, which are then separated to extract the different blood components. While plateletpheresis occurs with just one donor, pooled whole blood derived platelets come from multiple donors. Platelet (PLT) transfusions are widely used to treat patients with thrombocytopenia; during surgeries where the platelet counts fall below 5,000 to 10,000/ $\mu$ L; and/or for alloimmunization.

Data from the French national hemovigilance system, a computer system incorporating data from more than 1,400 hospitals and more than 250 donation centers in 23 of 26 regions in France, covering 96 percent of the population, was used to compare recipient reaction rates from apheresis and buffy coat platelets from 2009 to 2011. Of the 790,854 transfusions, there were 3,756 adverse reactions in recipients during the study period (overall incidence rate, 4749/million). Most were grade 1 reactions, with cutaneous or mucosal signs and symptoms, (3464/million). The rate for apheresis was 5806/million, compared to 2210/million with buffy coats. More severe reactions and life threatening reactions were more common with apheresis than buffy coat 241 vs. 131/million ( $p < 0.001$ ), and 182 vs. 121/million,  $p < 0.04$ , respectively. Morbidity rates were not different. With regard to donor adverse events, serious reactions were more frequent for apheresis procedures than for whole blood donations (5445 vs. 803 per 1 million,  $p < 0.001$ ).

There have been many studies over the last decade comparing the clinical and economic impacts of plateletpheresis vs. whole blood derived platelets. Generally

(continued on page 3)



## OUR SPACE

### ABC CEO Christine S. Zambricki, DNAP, CRNA, FAAN Not Just Another Survey

For over a decade, ABC has conducted three essential annual surveys to provide significant member benefit. The first of these, the ABC Executive Compensation Survey, arrived in mailboxes on Wednesday. With a participation rate of 95 percent last year, this survey is used to satisfy the Form 990 requirement to supply information about how a CEO salary is determined. Many members provide the results to their board to support compensation policies commensurate with the marketplace.

Data collected includes the salary, benefits, and bonus information for the C-Suite staff members, as well as Medical Director position. Have you ever wondered what percent of blood center executives receive a bonus? The survey reveals this and other interesting trends. Survey results are grouped by the size of blood center budgets and as with all ABC surveys, data is strictly confidential and anonymized.

The second ABC annual survey is the Financial Ratios Survey, coming in July. Last year, 97 percent of members participated to glean key strategic information on blood banking trends, with comparisons to previous years. Highlights include reporting on blood center gross revenues, number of employees, average compensation per FTE, cash on hand and other pertinent financial categories as well as units of individual blood products. Most centers use this report to benchmark with other similar sized centers and across the industry. Members report that their boards see tremendous value in the information. Enviro-scanning includes trending by five year comparisons. Data from previous years is available to participants upon request.

The third annual Service Fees Survey will be sent to members in December, encompassing fees of various products as of September 1, 2016. While at one time the report used to list individual centers, due to anti-trust considerations, all data is strictly anonymized and broken down by region and product. This survey is used extensively in advocacy efforts. The report also provides trending data to members in various geographic locations so that they can better benchmark their position within the blood economy.

Data is power. Results of the surveys will be made available only to participants. If you have any hesitation, added thoughts or suggestions about the surveys, please feel free to contact [Bill Coenen](#) or [me](#).

*Christine S. Zambricki*

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ABC is an association of not-for-profit, independent community blood centers that helps its members provide excellence in transfusion medicine and related health services. ABC provides leadership in donor advocacy, education, national policy, quality, and safety; and in finding efficiencies for the benefit of donors, patients, and healthcare facilities by encouraging collaboration among blood organizations and by acting as a forum for sharing information and best practices.

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Adverse Reactions from APCS vs. PPCS (continued from page 1)

speaking, these studies have found marginal benefits of using apheresis over whole blood donations, without consensus that one is materially superior to the other, and as Szczepiorkowski *et al.* note in an accompanying commentary, the French study had limitations. The reporting system is a passive reporting system with information missing about on which recipients were already alloimmunized.

Perhaps most importantly, information about the plasma content of the apheresis and whole blood derived platelets was not provided. Plasma content in transfusions has been linked to a higher rate of adverse reactions, mostly mild. Daurant *et al.* seem to assume that use of platelet additive solutions that reduce the volume of plasma transfused is independent of adverse reactions, but that is unlikely, Szczepiorkowski argues. They cite the 2014 U.S. study from Cohn *et al.* that found, in 3,646 patients in six academic medical centers, allergic or febrile reaction rates were 0.46 and 1.32 percent from platelets in additive solution versus plasma, respectively. The authors acknowledged methodological weaknesses in their study and called for more prospective, randomized studies to be performed to confirm or refute their findings.

**Citations:** Daurat A., Claire RC., *et al.* Apheresis platelets are more frequently associated with adverse reactions than pooled platelets both in recipients and in donors: a study from French hemovigilance data. *Transfusion*. June 2016. DOI:10.1111/trf.13475.

Szczepiorkowski Z., McCullough J. and Triulzi D., Whole blood versus apheresis platelet debate continues. *Transfusion*. June 2016. DOI:10.1111/trf.13642.

Cohn C., Stubbs J., Schwartz J., *et al.* A comparison of adverse reaction rates for PAS C versus plasma platelet units. *Transfusion*. 2014. DOI: 54:1927-34. 📌

### We Welcome Your Articles

We at the *ABC Newsletter* welcome freelance articles on any subject relevant to the blood banking community. Writers are encouraged to submit short proposals or unsolicited manuscripts of no more than 1,100 words. While ABC cannot pay for freelance pieces, the writer's name and title will be included at the end of the story, brief news item, or commentary. If proposing a story, please write a few paragraphs describing the idea and sources of information you will use, your present job and background, and your qualifications for writing on the topic. ABC staff cannot guarantee all stories will be published, and all outside writing will be subject to editing for style, clarity, brevity, and good taste. Please submit ideas and manuscripts to ABC Publications Editor Lisa Spinelli at [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org). You will be sent a writer's guide that provides information on style conventions, story structure, deadlines, etc.



**America's Blood Centers®**  
It's About *Life.*

## INSIDE ABC

*The programs and services described in the Inside ABC section are available to ABC member blood centers and their staff only, unless otherwise specified.*

### Develop a Succession Plan for Your Next Executive Team

The ABC Summer Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, this year brings a number of exciting opportunities to learn about the industry's hot and pressing topics, explore new techniques and network with industry leaders, innovative researchers, and forward-thinking CEOs. One forward-thinking session at the Summer Meeting that can help in planning for the future of your member center is the "Succession Planning for Your Aging Donor Base" session on Wednesday, August 3, from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m., as presented by Vanessa Merina, communications director at Stanford Blood Center in Stanford, Calif.

How do you connect differently with the next generation of donors? How do you generate loyalty with such a diverse donor base? Does your blood center's IT infrastructure support a successful connection? Presenter Ms. Merina goes over how you reach the tech-savvy Millennial donor and develop a core communications strategy that reaches that sect of the donor population.

More information on this session, and many other excellent opportunities to learn and hone your blood industry skills at the Summer Meeting, are available for ABC members on our [Member site](#) including the [Summer Meeting agenda](#). To register for the meeting, contact [Lori Beaston](#). ♦



## AMERICA'S BLOOD CENTERS 54TH SUMMER MEETING



**America's Blood Centers®**  
It's About *Life.*

**"In the late 1700s, Polynesian navigators voyaged thousands of miles of open ocean and discovered Hawaii.**

Using modern day wayfinding techniques, together we will explore ways to navigate the challenging times ahead facing the blood banking industry. Let the island host culture inspire us with its Aloha Spirit, high energy of world-famous Waikiki, natural beauty, entrancing hula and the thrill of fire knife dancing. Discover our paradise this summer."

– Kim Anh Nguyen, MD, PhD, president and CEO, Blood Bank of Hawaii



**Blood Bank of Hawaii**  
Give Blood. It's Safe. It's Simple. It Saves Lives.

Honolulu International Airport (HNL) is served by most major airlines. Visit <http://www.honoluluairport.org>.

August 1-4, 2016 – Honolulu, HI  
Hilton Waikiki Beach on Kuhio  
special room rate: \$240 + tax

#### Future Leader Scholarship Program

Supported by the FABC, these scholarships offer non-C-suite blood center executives the opportunity to advance professionally by attending the ABC Summer Meeting. Details available upon registration.

#### Registration Fees

ABC Summer Meeting: \$760  
Non-members (non-vendor), contact Lori Beaston at [lbeaston@americasblood.org](mailto:lbeaston@americasblood.org) for invitation and registration fees and information.

#### Meeting Schedule

**Monday August 1:**  
Links for Life Golf Tournament  
Links for Life Golf Reception  
**Tuesday, August 2:**  
Medical Directors Workshop  
Hospitality/Networking  
**Wednesday, August 3:**  
SMT Forum  
Blood Center Leadership Forum  
Host Event by Blood Bank of Hawaii  
Hospitality/Networking  
**Thursday, August 4:**  
ABC Members Meeting

For sponsorship opportunities contact Jodi Zand at [jzand@americasblood.org](mailto:jzand@americasblood.org).





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

America's Blood Centers' API Scholarship Program, made possible by a grant from the Foundation for America's Blood Centers (FABC), provides scholarships to blood banking professionals at ABC's member blood centers to supplement costs for attendance to an ABC Specialty Workshop or Meeting. ABC recently held the Human Resources and Employee Training and Development Workshop in San Antonio, Texas, on April 26 to 28. Below are edited excerpts from letters to the editor submitted by ABC members who received an ABC Scholarship to attend the workshop.

*"I would like to extend my gratitude to ABC for making scholarship funds available and for giving this newcomer to our industry an opportunity to expand his horizons. In my first year in the industry, I have learned so much, but I recognize that I still know so little. This year's workshop was a valuable learning experience for me, however, and several lessons learned in San Antonio have already been applied. In addition to the fresh ideas, I am grateful for the networking opportunities. The opportunity to meet people who share similar goals, face the same challenges, and who have more experience in the industry than I have was priceless. To my surprise, I was able to offer some ideas of my own even with my limited experience in our industry. My conversations with those new partners in training are only just beginning. Finally, the workshop offered peace of mind, as training challenges seem to be universal. None of us have unlimited budgets, but if we are innovative and do the best we can with what we have, good things will come. Again, my sincerest gratitude goes to ABC for the opportunity to attend this year's workshop. The venue was great, and the workshop was more than rewarding. It has already made me better at what I do."* -**Randy Douglas, M.Ed., Manager of Corporate Training, Mississippi Blood Services**

*"Both our industry as well as the Human Resource field is ever changing. The conference allowed me the opportunity to hear about the latest topics affecting Human Resource professionals as well as learn more about the challenges and changes affecting our business. The presenters were very knowledgeable and provided information on a wide area of Human Resource, training and development issues. They supplied information that will be useful for dealing with every day occurrences that occur in the workplace as well as helping to plan for the future and meeting our long term goals. The roundtable discussions as well as having the opportunity to network with fellow workers provided an exciting opportunity. I found that while our centers can be very different, many seem to have the same problems and concerns. Learning how other centers handle situations led to insight and the ability to think, 'Could this work for us?' I am looking forward to participating in future conferences and would encourage others to participate as well. The experience has been very rewarding."* -**Roberta (Bobbi) Pope, Human Resource Generalist, Miller-Keystone Blood Center**

*"I would like to give my sincere appreciation for the scholarship support that was afforded me to attend the 2016 Human Resources/Training and Development Workshop. Due to restrictions in our budget, without the scholarship I truly believe I would not have been able to attend such an awesome workshop. Attending the workshop provided me everything I was looking for and more. Being able to sit and collaborate with others that have been in the blood banking industry for years was definitely helpful. I believe the roundtable discussions were a great benefit. I came away from the workshop with a different understanding and appreciation for the industry, along with new found colleagues. Knowing that I am not alone in this, gave me some relief. We all have challenges, we all want to be better and we all want our organizations to succeed. The absolute 'icing on the cake' for me was touring the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center. Although I have been a part of a blood bank for about two years, I have never had the opportunity to tour another center. Being able to take the tour certainly gave me a different perspective. Again, I am thankful for the scholarship and look forward to other opportunities to participate in other workshops. This experience was definitely an inspiration for me."* -**Tracie Kingsland, Director of Human Resources, Blood Bank of Alaska**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (continued from page 5)

*“Insightful, educational, eye-opening and connection...these are the few words that come to mind when I think about my experience at the recent ABC HR/Training & Development workshop. It was sobering to see that attendance has decreased compared to years past but what could have been viewed as a ‘negative’ ultimately worked beautifully in our favor. The more intimate gathering allowed time for meaningful, robust conversations on the issues and challenges that we all face...I came back from the workshop with renewed energy and focus, along with many tools and resources to tackle these challenges. I enjoyed using the meeting app on my mobile device during the workshop. Having access to the speakers’ presentations and a contact list of all the workshop attendees was extremely helpful. The app also allowed me to submit surveys with the sessions still fresh in my memory. Thank you to the ABC Foundation for awarding these scholarships. With us working in ‘lean’ times, any financial support to help provide educational opportunities is much appreciated.”* -**Cam Mahon, Training and Development Supervisor, BloodSource, Inc.**

*“The ABC Human Resources & Training/Development Workshop proved to be a very useful resource and catalyst in helping to move our blood center in a more positive direction. Each session was tailored to provide the attendees with a specialized skillset or step-by-step guidelines/checklists for striving to achieve operational excellence. Interactive sessions with fellow members of the blood community especially helped to provide benefits and feedback by providing attendees the opportunity to work together to determine best practices and immediate next steps to solve similarly challenging situations. I benefited most by discussing questions one-on-one with selected speakers at the commencement of a few sessions. These one-on-one sessions allowed me to get excellent feedback from skilled professionals with years of experience in HR in the same industry, which is a unique circumstance in itself, since it is a rare occasion to interact with others in the blood community. Colleagues would also begin joining in conversations between the speakers and me to give their helpful input, which ended up turning into a collaborative brainstorming session. With so many different perspectives from various individuals with a wide range of experience levels, the benefits will translate for many I am sure, into a fresh perspective and thinking outside-the-box to solve every day issues. The ABC conference was an excellent opportunity and I am so grateful to have attended.”* -**Deana Fatovic, Human Resource Manager, Community Blood Services**

**RESEARCH IN BRIEF**

**When comparing the costs of transfusing cryoprecipitate (cryo) or fibrinogen concentrate (FC) for fibrinogen repletion in patients, scientists found cryo to be significantly less expensive.** Fibrinogen is a critical protein in platelet aggregation and clotting and is also one of the first coagulation factors to reach critically low levels when a major bleed occurs. Transfusing with cryo or FC can help with fibrinogen repletion during these critical bleeds.

In a cost-minimization model comparing the cost of cryo vs. FC from the transfusion service perspective, researchers used patient data from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Medical Center to determine that the cost of cryo, including estimates of wastage and tech time, is \$414/5-unit pool, whereas equivalent FC was more expensive by \$976 to \$1,303.

To be cost competitive with cryo, the cost of FC must decrease by 44 percent or save on the length of time a patient spends in the intensive care unit.

RESEARCH IN BRIEF (continued from page 6)

**Citation:** Okerberg C.K., Williams III L.A., Kilgore M.L., *et al.* Cryoprecipitate AHF vs. fibrinogen concentrates for fibrinogen replacement in acquired bleeding patients – an economic evaluation. *Vox Sanguinis*. June 1, 2016. DOI: 10.1111/vox.12417.


**A retrospective, multicenter cohort study questions the benefit of platelet transfusions for very-low birth-weight (VLBW) infants with thrombocytopenia and finds no link between platelet transfusions and a lower risk of intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) for these patients.** Thrombocytopenia, a platelet count (PCT) of less than 150,000/ $\mu$ L, affects 18 percent to 35 percent of patients admitted to neonatal intensive care units (NICU) and is inversely related to gestational age. An estimated 5 to 9 percent of patients admitted to NICUs in the U.S. receive at least one platelet transfusion, generally to prevent intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH).

Analysis of data collected from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007, sought to:

- Characterize actual platelet transfusion practices in this patient population;
- Determine whether severity of illness and clinical factors associated with increased bleeding risk influence platelet transfusion decisions; and
- Examine the association between the degree of thrombocytopenia and subsequent risk for IVH during the first seven days of life.

The researchers analyzed medical records lab results and cranial ultrasounds from 972 infants with a mean gestational age of 28.2 weeks and a PCT less than 150,000/ $\mu$ L during the first seven days of life in six hospitals. A total of 231 VLBW patients were given 1,002 platelet transfusions. Male infants were more likely to receive a platelet transfusion (61 percent) as well as those infants more premature (mean [SD] GA, 26.3 [3.0] vs 28.8 [2.6] weeks;  $P < .001$ ) and weighing less.

Cox regression models were used to control for potential confounding treatment and patient characteristics, to assess the association PCT with a risk for subsequent IVH and any association between platelet transfusion and protection from subsequent IVH. While platelet transfusion was used frequently, and the severity of thrombocytopenia was associated with platelet transfusion, it did not reduce the risk of IVH. The authors recognized the retrospective design and other limitations that may have influenced their findings.

**Citation:** Sparger K., Assmann S., *et al.* Platelet Transfusion Practices Among Very-Low-Birth-Weight Infants. *JAMA Pediatr*. Early Online, May 23, 2016. DOI:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2016.050. 

## BRIEFLY NOTED

**Northern Ireland is lifting the lifetime ban on men who have sex with other men (MSM) from donating blood.** On June 2, 2016, the Stormont's Minister for Health in Northern Ireland, Michelle O'Neill, announced MSM are being permitted to donate blood after one year from their last same-sex sexual encounter. The ruling comes some five years after the lifetime ban was lifted in the rest of the United Kingdom. (Source: NewsTalk.com, [Northern Ireland to lift ban on gay men donating blood](#), June 2, 2016.)

BRIEFLY NOTED (continued from page 7)

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued recommendations on Zika antibody testing.** The “Interim Guidance for Interpretation of Zika Virus Antibody Test Results,” published online on June 3, suggested that if nucleic acid amplification tests confirm Zika, no further testing needs to be done. “If immunoglobulin (Ig) M test results are positive, equivocal, or inconclusive, performing a plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT) is needed to confirm the diagnosis. However, recent evidence suggests that a four-fold higher titer by PRNT might not discriminate between anti-Zika virus antibodies and cross-reacting antibodies in all persons who have been previously infected with or vaccinated against a related flavivirus. Thus, a more conservative approach to interpreting PRNT results is now recommended to reduce the possibility of missing the diagnosis of either Zika or dengue virus infection.” (Source: CDC website, [Interim Guidance for Interpretation of Zika Virus Antibody Test Results](#), June 3, 2016.)

**The National Cancer Institute announced a centralized data system for researchers to share cancer genomic and clinical data.** The Genomic Data Commons will include data from the Cancer Genome Atlas and its pediatric equivalent, [Therapeutically Applicable Research to Generate Effective Treatments](#). Data will also be available, subject to approval, from cancer researchers and clinicians around the world. (Source: National Institutes of Health, [Newly launched Genomic Data Commons to facilitate data and clinical information sharing](#), June 6, 2016.) 🔴

## RECENT REVIEWS

**Platelet additive solutions are electrolyte solutions that replace a proportion of plasma during platelet storage, and can affect their quality as determined by various in vitro and in vivo characteristics.** In a review of the composition and effects of contemporary acetate-containing additive solutions, the author concludes they should be the preferred over plasma as the storage medium of platelets.

**Citation:** Van der Meer PF. PAS or plasma for storage of platelets? A concise review. *Transfusion Medicine*. 2016. Early online. DOI: 10.1111/tme.12325. 🔴

## GLOBAL NEWS

**The World Health Organization (WHO) rejected a call to move the Summer Olympics in Brazil.** In a statement on the WHO website on May 28, WHO officials wrote, “Based on current assessment, cancelling or changing the location of the 2016 Olympics will not significantly alter the international spread of Zika virus.” The statement comes in response to an open letter from a group of 150 health experts addressed to WHO Secretary-General Margaret Chan, MD, to postpone or move the Olympics due to the Zika outbreak. (Source: [WHO website](#), May 28, 2016.) 🔴

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE UPDATES

**High rate of cure of babesiosis possible in mouse model.** Babesiosis is an emerging infection and one of the most important transfusion-transmitted infections in the U.S. Treatment is with one of two drug combinations (atovaquone and azithromycin or quinine and clindamycin), but antimicrobial resistance and persistent infections, despite therapy, are not uncommon. Investigators at Yale University and Veter-

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## INFECTIOUS DISEASE UPDATES (continued from page 8)

ans Affairs Medical Center in Portland, Oregon, describe curative combination therapy in immunodeficient mice using atovaquone and novel endochin-like quinolones with an apparent high barrier to resistance and curative potential with no evidence of persistent infection 122 days after treatment when compared with multiple control drug regimens.

**Citation:** Lawres L.A., Garg A., Kumar V., *et al.* Radical cure of experimental babesiosis in immunodeficient mice using a combination of an endochin-like quinolone and atovaquone. *Journal of Experimental Medicine*. 2016. Newest Articles. DOI:10.1084/jem.20151519.

**A woman in Paris became infected with Zika virus (ZIKV) after non-ejaculatory sex with a partner who had recently traveled to Brazil.** French scientists reported in a letter to the *New England Journal of Medicine* on a woman with symptoms consistent with Zika infection in February, after having vaginal and oral sex with a man who had just arrived from Rio de Janeiro. The man had also reported Zika-compatible symptoms until the day he landed in Paris. Three days after the onset of the woman's symptoms (13 days after the man's arrival from Brazil) the man had viral RNA in his urine and semen, but not in saliva nor blood. The woman had Zika RNA, with similar sequences to her partner's, in her urine and saliva. While mainstream media reported this as potential transmission via oral sex, there is no data presented directly supporting such speculation in preference to vaginal intercourse.

**Citation:** D'Ortenzio E., Matheron S., *et al.* [Evidence of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus](#). *NEJM*. Letter to the Editor. June 2, 2016. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc1604449.

**The number of new HIV infections rose slightly last year.** The Joint United Nations on HIV/AIDS program, UNAIDS, reported 2.1 million new HIV infections last year, bringing the total number living with the virus to 36.7 million worldwide, with an estimated 1.1 million related deaths in 2015. In 2014, UNAIDS reported 2 million new infections after the peak in 1998 with 3.4 million new infections. (Source: UNAIDS, [Global AIDS Update, 2016](#). May 31, 2016.) ♦

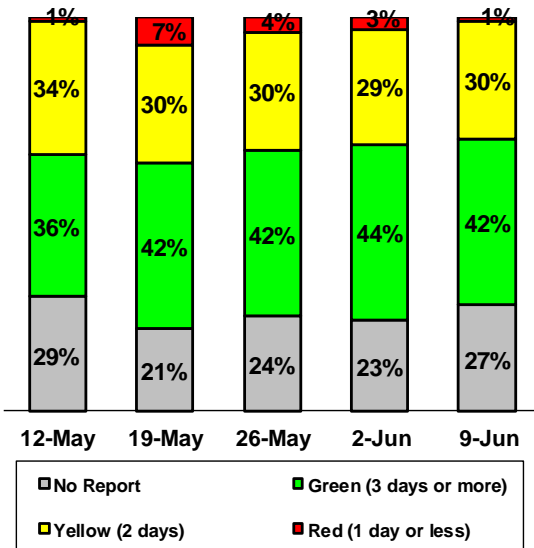
### **We Welcome Your Letters**

The *ABC Newsletter* welcomes letters from its readers on any blood-related topic that might be of interest to ABC members. Letters should be kept relatively short and to the point, preferably about a topic that has recently been covered in the *ABC Newsletter*. Letters are subject to editing for brevity and good taste. Please send letters to ABC Publications Editor Lisa Spinelli at [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org) or fax them to (202) 393-1282. Please include your correct title and organization as well as your phone number. The deadline for letters is Wednesday to make it into the next newsletter.

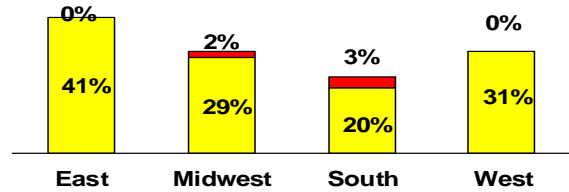


**STOPLIGHT®: Status of America’s Blood Centers’ Blood Supply**

**Total ABC Red Cell Inventory**



**Percent of Regional Inventory at 2 Day Supply or Less, June 9, 2016**



**Percent of Total ABC Blood Supply Contributed by Each Region**  
 East: 20%; Midwest: 25%; South: 24%; West: 31%

**MEMBER NEWS**



**The BloodCenter of Wisconsin (BCW) is offering a free continuing medical education program on the development of massive transfusion protocols.** Dr. Lisa Baumann-Kreuziger, MD, associate medical director of BCW, will be presenting the course on best practices for the care and management of patients undergoing massive transfusion. This presentation will be based on her experiences in the field, which includes the evaluation of a massive transfusion protocol at the University of Minnesota. To access this course, click [here](#).

**The BloodCenter of Wisconsin and the San Diego Blood Bank have announced a strategic partnership to accelerate advancements in research and patient care with the creation of [Celluvative™](#).** The collaborative effort hosts a portfolio of 300 products and clinical trial services, including esoteric laboratory testing, blood products for research and manufacturing applications, cell processing, and access to a broad database of diverse donors who have expressed interest in clinical trials. “Through the strength of our partnership, we are able to offer end-to-end services to academic organizations, research institutions and other industry partners who are working to develop novel cellular therapy approaches,” said Matthew Anderson, MD, Ph.D., medical director, BloodCenter of Wisconsin Diagnostic Laboratories. “Among other offerings, our Celluvative portfolio enables access to an extremely diverse donor database – an invaluable resource to enable advances in the area of regenerative medicine and drug discovery.”

**ABC Calendar of Events**

ABC offers a variety of meetings, workshops and virtual opportunities for education and networking as well as participation in ABC business. The [calendar of events](#) includes annual and summer meetings, board meetings, workshops, and webinars, and details will be updated as confirmed. We look forward to your support and participation!



## PEOPLE



Joe Chaffin, MD, LifeStream, (center) accepts the Suzanne Ledin Lectureship and Award from George Ledin and Dr. Katya Ledin.

LifeStream's Chief Medical Officer Joe Chaffin, MD, was honored with the prestigious Suzanne Ledin Lectureship and Award at the 2016 California Blood Bank Society (CBBS) Annual Meeting this spring. Presented by the Suzanne Ledin Memorial Foundation, the award was given, "In recognition of his active involvement in education, training and research pertaining to transfusion medicine" through his website [Blood Bank Guy](#). Dr. Chaffin presented his lecture, "When Selfies Go Bad: Decoding Autoantibodies and Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia," to the attendees. he has practiced transfusion medicine for more than 20 years at various locations, including Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; Bonfils Blood Center in Denver, Colo.; and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. His website hosts more than 200,000 visitors annually from around the world. The [Suzanne Ledin Memorial Foundation](#) was established in 2003 to inspire and provide opportunity for future generations of blood banking professionals.

The lectureship and award in her name is presented every year at the CBBS Annual Meeting. Past award winners include Drs. George Garratty, Marion Reed, James AuBuchon, and Walter (Sunny) Dzik.

**John Combes, MD, the American Hospital Association's (AHA) chief medical officer and senior vice president and president of AHA's Center for Healthcare Governance, will retire in October.** Mr. Combes spent nearly 12 years leading AHA's governance and physician leadership efforts, and has also spearheaded the association's Physician Leadership Forum; supported the AHA Board of Trustees' Committee on Research; serves on several national advisory groups on medical ethics, palliative care and reduction of medication errors; and was principal investigator for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's national program to reduce central-line infections.

"John has been a great colleague to all of us at the AHA and in the field as a physician, hospital board member, health care executive and thought-leader," said Maryjane Wurth, AHA chief strategy and relationship officer and president and CEO of Health Forum, in a statement. "We appreciate his time with us and his role in helping transform health care." (Source: AHA, June 6, 2016.) ♦



## MEETINGS

June 9 - 11      **14<sup>th</sup> International Cord Blood Symposium, San Francisco, Calif.**

AABB, with support from the Cord Blood Association, will host the 14th International Cord Blood Symposium from June 9 to 11 in San Francisco, Calif. The scientific program brings all of the umbilical cord blood related fields of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, banking, and potential in regenerative medicine together in one interactive three-day conference. The [program](#), registration details, and other information can be found [here](#).

August 1 - 4      **ABC 54th Summer Meeting MD Workshops and 6th Annual Links for Life Golf Tournament, Honolulu, Hawaii**

Registration is open for the ABC 54th Summer Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, hosted by Blood Bank of Hawaii, to take place August 1 to 4 at the Hilton Waikiki

(continued on page 12)

MEETINGS (continued from page 11)

Beach on Kuhio Ave. It will feature the ABC Medical Directors Workshop and the Foundation for America's Blood Centers Links for Life Golf Tournament. Contact [Lori Beaston](#) for more information.

**Sept. 8 FDA Public Workshop on Development of HCT/Ps, Silver Spring, Md.**

This free, first-come-first serve, public workshop titled the [Scientific Evidence in the Development of Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Products Subject to Premarket Approval](#) was organized to identify and discuss scientific considerations and challenges to help inform the development of human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products (HCT/Ps) subject to premarket approval, including stem cell-based products. The workshop will take place at White Oak Campus, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Building 31 Conference Center, Great Room in Silver Spring, Md.

**Sept. 12 - 13 FDA Public Hearing on HCT/Ps, Bethesda, Md.**

Early registration for this public hearing to collect comments on the draft guidances relating to the regulation of human cells, tissues or cellular or tissue-based products will last until June 1. The hearing will take place at the Masur Auditorium, Building 10, 9000 Rockville Pike, in Bethesda, Md. More information can be found [here](#).

**Oct. 31 – Nov. 1 FDA 510(k) Submissions Workshop, Washington, D.C.**

The FDA and industry experts are coming together to teach the basics of 510(k) submissions. Learn about the FDA's updates to the 510(k) process, considerations for determining a product's regulatory route to market, factors to consider when planning and assembling 510(k) submissions. The workshop will take place at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C. Find out more information and register [here](#).

**Nov. 2 FDA IDE Submissions Workshop, Washington, D.C.**

Learn the regulatory and practical guidelines governing when an investigational device exemption is required during this interactive workshop. The workshop will take place at Washington Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C. Find out more information and register [here](#). ♦

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

Classified advertisements, including notices of positions available and wanted, are published free of charge for a maximum of three weeks per position per calendar year for ABC institutional members. There are charges for non-members: \$139 per placement for ABC Newsletter subscribers and \$279 for non-subscribers. A six (6) percent processing fee will be applied to all credit card payments. Notices ordinarily are limited to 150 words. To place an ad, contact Leslie Maundy at the ABC office. Phone: (202) 654-2917; fax: (202) 393-5527; e-mail: [lmaundy@americasblood.org](mailto:lmaundy@americasblood.org).

## POSITIONS

**Manager, Donor Services – Mobiles.** The Donor Services Manager, Mobiles is fully trained as a Donor Services Technician (Phlebotomist); this includes the collection of whole blood on mobiles, as well as center environments, autologous and therapeutic collections and technologies of automated equipment. Carries out supervisory/managerial responsibilities either directly or indirectly in accordance with the organization's policies and applicable laws. Ability to delegate and ensure accountability of job performance; provides documentation of performance/disciplinary issues as needed and/or positive reinforcement. Ensures training courses are developed and executed in a timely manner. Analyzes departmental measurements/metrics such as deferral rates, QNS rates, split rates, errors, staff turnover, etc. Develops and executes process improvement plans to meet and maintain compliance and quality standards. Implements direct process improvement plans to meet annual collection goals, to enhance quality, to enhance the donor experience and encourages donors to support their community blood program. Oversees mobile collections problem trends and supports corrective actions required to sustain continuous improvement across the organization. Assures effective internal and external communication between all department levels and functions to foster teamwork and enhances operational success. Continually develops, mentors and supports staff to reach their full potential; in achieving independent and efficient work status. Assists in mobile collections as needed. Apply online at [www.cbcc.us/careers](http://www.cbcc.us/careers).

**Marketing Manager.** Since 1948, BloodSource has proudly served as a leader in our industry. We are a globally-recognized leader in blood transfusion medicine! With Donor Center locations throughout Northern and Central California, more than 2,200 community blood drives every year and a dedicated donor base, we are the source of nearly every unit of blood used by more than 40 hospitals in approximately 25 counties. Our reputation is one of excellence, quality and service. We recognize our most valuable asset – our employee with excellent benefits, competitive salaries and an environment based on respect, collaboration, and teamwork. We are looking for a Marketing Manager to join our leadership team at BloodSource! The Marketing Manager is responsible for overseeing the development of marketing and communication strategies that reflect and support organizational goals to ensure that community blood needs are effectively communicated and operational goals are consistently achieved. This individual will be responsible for developing, executing and measuring the effectiveness of all strategic marketing, public relations and special events to support attainment of BloodSource Collections goals in multi-site locations and our newly forming Pacific Region (Northern California, Sacramento, San Francisco and North-West

Nevada). Link to Apply: <http://www.bloodsource.org/About-Us/Employment>

**Fairbanks Center Manager.** The Blood Bank of Alaska (BBA) is looking for a Fairbanks Center Manager. The Fairbanks Center Manager is responsible for oversight and coordination of the daily operational collection functions and related product processing work flow for the BBAF Center. Directs the activities of such team to facilitate reaching and exceeding goal. Oversight and partnership with BBA management team in planning, program formulation, and technical decision making with particular reference to the role, functions, and operation of the blood bank's technical areas. This position is full-time exempt. The Blood Bank of Alaska offers competitive wages and an exceptional benefits plan. We offer medical, dental, vision, life and short/long term disability programs to qualified employees. Educational assistance, paid annual leave and holidays, a health and wellness program, and a 401 (k) program are also available. The Blood Bank is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital/veteran status or any other legally protected status. Interested candidates please apply online at [www.bloodbankofalaska.org](http://www.bloodbankofalaska.org).

**Assistant Professor / Professor of Transfusion and Cell Therapies.** The Faculty of Medicine at Helsinki University, Finland, invites applications for the position of assistant professor / professor of transfusion and cell therapies. The Faculty and Helsinki University Central Hospital are among the 10 best medical centers at European level and the 50 best centers in the world. The applicant will carry out and supervise scientific research, provide research-based teaching and follow scientific progress and take part in societal interaction in his/her field and in international collaboration. International and cross-disciplinary experience, success in obtaining research funding and playing an active role in research community will be appreciated. The appointee and the Finnish Red Cross Blood Service (FRC BS) may negotiate over a suitable secondary position. FRC BS is a non-profit organization responsible for collecting blood and supplying blood products all over Finland. FRC BS also hosts the Finnish Stem Cell Registry. FRC BS has an annual research budget of over 2 million euros and publishes about 35-40 scientific publications each year. Further information can be found at: <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/open-positions/assistant-professor-professor-of-transfusion-and-cell-therapies>. 🔴