

2025 #6

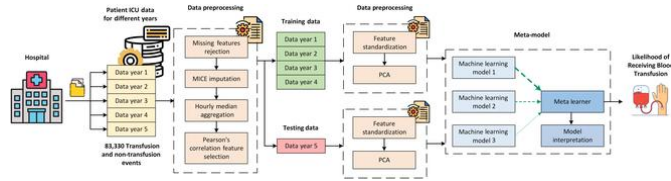
February 18, 2025

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Using AI to Predict Blood Transfusions

Authors of a [paper](#) published in *Health Data Science*, a *Science Partner Journal*, developed an artificial intelligence (AI) model based on machine learning to predict blood transfusion needs for non-traumatic intensive care unit (ICU) patients. Specifically, the researchers at Emory University developed their AI model using a dataset that included 72,072 total patients with 18,314 transfused individuals and 53,758 that were not transfused from 2016 to 2020 at Emory University Hospital. They noted that the transfused cohort was adult patients 18 years of age and older who were not suffering from massive bleeding but had received a blood product. The non-transfused group featured individuals 18 and older who did not receive a transfusion of any blood product.



The paper explained that in addition to their AI model, five distinct other models or algorithms were developed and used to, “predict the probability of necessity for blood transfusions 24 hours in advance during ICU stays.” The researchers described those models as, “logistic regression (LR), random forest (RF), feedforward neural networks (FNNs), support vector machines (SVMs), and XGBoost (XGB). [The AI model was created to] improve the predictive performance of the blood transfusion receipt.” They noted that, “[o]ur primary performance metric was the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC) [as models] with a higher AUROC potentially lead to more efficient models in the prediction of blood transfusion by maintaining the balance between specificity and sensitivity metrics.”

The researchers discovered that, “the [AI model] consistently outperform[ed] other models across various scenarios.” They explained that the AI model, “[w]hen evaluated on unseen data from the year 2018 and trained on data from other years, [it] achieves an impressive performance, boasting an AUROC of 0.97, an accuracy rate of 0.93, and an F1 score of 0.89. The main contribution of the AI model can be seen in its ability to maintain high precision while improving recall. That is, it [can] identify a high proportion of the true positive cases it predicts as such, ensuring that the predictions it makes are highly reliable.”

The authors concluded that, “[t]he developed [AI] model demonstrated superior performance across various training scenarios, with a full year’s data utilized for evaluation. The ability to analyze the underlying reasons behind the [AI] model’s

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Using AI to Predict Blood Transfusions (continued from page 1)

decision-making using its base models and patient features offers better communication with healthcare providers and builds trust. By enabling healthcare providers to predict transfusion recipients, [the AI] model can allow for proactive management of patients at risk, potentially improving recovery rates and reducing complications due to delayed transfusions. Additionally, improved predictive capabilities can streamline hospital operations, from optimizing blood supply management to planning staffing and procedural logistics more efficiently.” The researchers also acknowledged that, “our [AI] model needs to be cross-validated with other hospitals for more generalization. Hence, future endeavors will aim to validate extensively and integrate these models into clinical workflows and assess their effectiveness on a broader scale, with the ultimate goal of refining and personalizing care in critical settings.”

Citation: Rafiei, A., Moore, R., and Choudhary, T. *et al.* “[Robust meta-model for predicting the likelihood of receiving blood transfusion in non-traumatic intensive care unit patients.](#)” *Health Data Sciences*. 2024.



WORD IN WASHINGTON

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. has been confirmed by the Senate and [sworn in](#) as the 26th U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary (HHS). According to a news release from HHS, in this role he will, “administer and oversee all HHS programs, operating divisions, and activities, including a nearly \$2 trillion budget. These divisions include the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).”

(Source: HHS [News Release](#), 2/13/25)

Thomas Engles is the new [administrator](#) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). According to [Becker’s Hospital Review](#), Mr. Engels, “returns to the role after previously serving as administrator from 2019 to 2021. He also served as a member of the White House COVID-19 Taskforce. Before joining HRSA, he served as deputy secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. He most recently served as sergeant-at-arms at the Wisconsin State Senate.”

(Sources: HRSA [Announcement](#), 2/13/25; [Becker’s Hospital Review](#), “[Former HRSA administrator returns to role](#),” 2/13/25) 



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ABC advocates for and advances policies that promote the role of independent blood centers in providing life-saving blood products and recognizes the continuous need for a safe and robust blood supply. ABC exists to advocate for laws and regulations recognizing the essential role that independent blood centers play in the health care system; promote partnerships, policies, and programs that increase awareness about the need for blood donation; and serve as a thought leader in the advancement of evidence-based medical and scientific solutions related to health and safety.

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PEOPLE



Central California Blood Center has named [Christine Hayes](#) president and chief executive officer (CEO). According to a February 11th news release, she will bring more than 30 years of blood banking experience to the role and most recently served as chief operating officer at LifeServe Blood Center where she managed, led, and spearheaded “initiatives that elevated LifeServe’s operational footprint, including the development and expansion of blood collection, donor recruitment, and component manufacturing programs. Under her leadership, the organization achieved notable milestones, including becoming one of the top five producers of convalescent plasma during the COVID-19 pandemic.” Ms. Hayes stated in the news release, “I am honored to join the Central California Blood Center and work alongside such a dedicated team committed to providing a safe and reliable blood supply.

I look forward to building on the Central California Blood Center’s legacy of service and innovation, engaging with our community partners, and ensuring that every donation contributes to saving lives across our region.” She received her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Iowa State University and has, “served on numerous industry boards and committees, including the National Blood Collaborative, America’s Blood Centers, and ADRP, the Association for Blood Donor Professionals, where she was a past president.”

(Source: Central California Blood Center [News Release](#), 2/11/25) 💧

MEMBER NEWS

New York Blood Center Enterprises (NYBCe) recently [announced](#) that a team of researchers have, “uncovered a critical mechanism that could potentially transform treatment approaches for Sickle Cell Disease (SCD).” Their findings have been published in *Blood*. The researchers used, “sophisticated mouse models [to] systematically examin[e] the role of key immune cell subsets and discovered that SCD mice exhibited enhanced immune responses to specific T-cell independent antigens. B-1 cells, particularly the B-1b subset, played a critical role in these immune responses, while type I interferons emerged as pivotal factors in modulating immune responses and contributing to autoantibody production. The study was funded through National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants awarded to NYBCe researchers by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).”

(Source: NYBCe [Announcement](#), 2/12/25)

Miller-Keystone Blood Center (MKBC) has [received](#) a \$250,000 grant from Lehigh County for the purchase of a new bloodmobile. Rami Neme, president and chief executive officer of MKBC, added in a blood center announcement, “[a]pproximately 40 percent of our community’s blood supply comes from donations collected at blood drives hosted by local businesses, high schools, colleges, churches, community centers, and other organizations. [As] we have moved into the post-pandemic era, we are seeing a shift back to a ‘mobile-drive culture.’ Lehigh County Executive Phillips Armstrong noted in the announcement, “[w]e recognize the lifesaving work that Miller-Keystone Blood Center brings to our community and Lehigh County citizens. Lehigh County is excited to provide this grant in support of Miller-Keystone Blood Center’s ongoing mission of saving lives by partnering with the community to provide a continuous supply of blood product and services.”



(Source: MKBC [Announcement](#), 2/13/25) 💧



INFECTIOUS DISEASES UPDATES

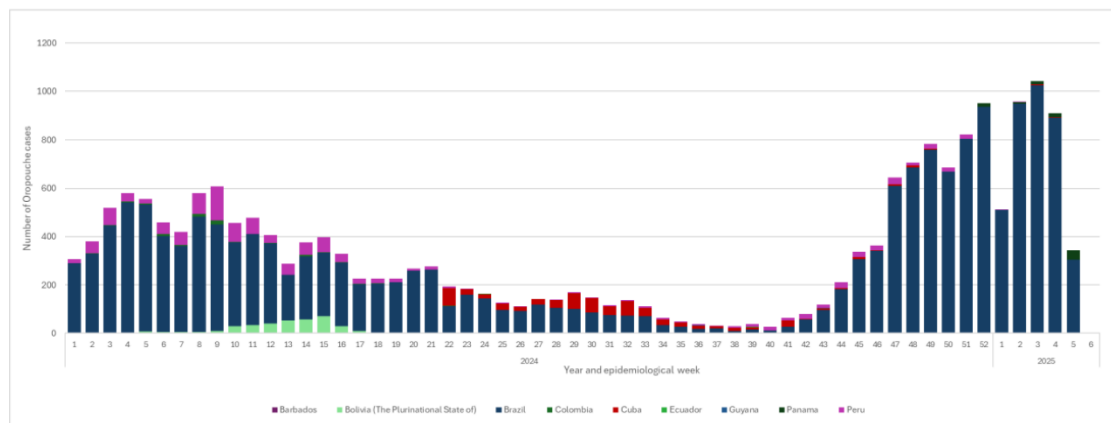
Oropouche

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and World Health Organization (WHO) have [published](#) an “Epidemiological Update” regarding Oropouche in the Americas. In the February 11th communication, the agencies stated that, “[d]uring 2024, 16,239 confirmed cases of Oropouche, including four deaths, were reported in the Americas Region. [So far in 2025,] between epidemiological week (EW) 1 and EW 4, there were 3,765 confirmed Oropouche cases reported [in] the Americas Region. Confirmed cases were reported in six countries in the Americas Region: Brazil¹ (n= 3,678 cases), Canada (n= 1 imported case), Cuba (n= 4 cases), Guyana (n= 1 case), Panama² (n= 79 cases), and Peru (n= 2 cases).” PAHO and the WHO recommended that countries with autochthonous cases of Oropouche:

- “[m]onitor the spread of the Oropouche virus to detect introduction into new areas;
- [c]arry out the epidemiological characterization in time, place, and person of the cases of Oropouche;
- [p]erform the clinical characterization of Oropouche cases;
- [i]ntensify surveillance of patients with neurological and congenital complications in areas with OROV circulation; [and]
- [m]aintain continuous surveillance to monitor epidemiological and entomological changes.”

In September 2024, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research issued a [communication](#) titled, “Important Information for Blood Establishments Regarding the Oropouche Virus and Blood Donation” that stated, “[w]orldwide, there have been no reports of transmission of Oropouche virus by transfusion of blood or blood components. [Taking into] consideration the existing safeguards for blood safety, the current small number of Oropouche virus disease cases among U.S. travelers, and no reports of Oropouche virus transmission by blood and blood components, screening donors by asking them specific questions about exposure to Oropouche virus or travel to areas with Oropouche virus outbreaks is not warranted at this time. A screening test for Oropouche virus is not available.”

Figure 1. Number of confirmed autochthonous Oropouche cases by country and epidemiological week (EW) of symptom onset, Americas Region, 2024 -2025*



*Note: Information is up to EW 4 of 2025 for most countries; information for Brazil is up to EW 5 of 2025 and information for Panama is up to EW 6 of 2025.

Source: Adapted from data provided by the respective countries and reproduced by PAHO/WHO (1-8, 10-16).

(Source: PAHO & WHO [Epidemiological Update Oropouche in the Americas](#), 2/11/25) 💧



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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 staffs only, unless otherwise specified.

ABC Advocacy Forum Set for February 25th

America's Blood Centers (ABC) will host an Advocacy Forum webinar on Tuesday, February 25th at 2 p.m. EST titled "What We Know about the Start of the Trump Administration." Join us as we share information and insights regarding the potential impact on community blood centers as the administration continues to transition. A link to registration and additional information is available to ABC members [here](#). This is your chance to learn more about the first weeks of the Trump Administration, discuss opportunities for ABC's advocacy priorities, and ask any questions that you or your blood center may have. Please [contact us](#) with questions

Extension for Member Input Request Until February 18th for ABC Stop the Bleed Partnership & Webinar Recording Available

As the ABC and Stop the Bleed partnership prepares to launch in May in conjunction with National Trauma Awareness Month, we are asking member blood centers to share input regarding the partnership by taking a moment to complete a brief [survey](#) by Tuesday, February 18th. This initiative will make resources available to ABC members and feature a series of activities during National Trauma Awareness Month including:

- a customized partnership toolkit;
- the distribution of co-branded ABC/Stop the Bleed emergency kits to interested member centers; and
- the opportunity to host joint public events, such as Stop the Bleed training sessions and blood drives, to highlight the critical role of blood donation in emergency preparedness.

A [recording](#) of the ABC Stop the Bleed webinar is also available to ABC member blood centers. The January 31st webinar discussed details of ABC's new national partnership with Stop the Bleed, a public-private initiative led by the Department of Defense and run by the American College of Surgeons. The collaboration aims to enhance emergency preparedness by training individuals to effectively stop severe bleeding in emergencies while promoting the importance of blood donation.

Please [contact us](#) with questions.

ABC Webinar: "An Overview of Whole Derived Platelets & Cold Stored Platelets Set for February 26th

The ABC Education Committee has announced that a webinar titled "An Overview of Whole Blood Derived Platelets & Cold Stored Platelets" will be held on February 26th at 3 p.m. EST. This event will feature South Texas Blood & Tissues' Senior Director of Systems Integration Jim Latimer and Carter BloodCare's Medical Director of Patient Services Frances Compton, MD sharing their experiences and insights from implementing whole blood-derived platelets and cold stored platelets at their blood centers. More information and a link to registration are available to ABC members [here](#). Please [contact us](#) with questions.

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INSIDE ABC (continued from page 5)

ABC “Staying Ahead in the Digital Landscape” Webinar Taking Place February 27th

Registration is open for ABC’s February webinar that aims to provide blood centers with valuable insights into today’s search engine optimization (SEO) environment, upcoming trends, and proven strategies to elevate your digital communication efforts. During the “Staying Ahead in the Digital Landscape” Webinar, hear Tom Felgar, the head of Paid & Organic Search at 501SEM, share cutting-edge techniques and expert advice aimed at optimizing your blood center’s online presence. Learn how to enhance your chances of being featured in Google’s Artificial Intelligence (AI) summaries, drive organic traffic to your website, boost visibility, and effectively engage your blood center’s audience. This webinar is open to all ABC members. More information and a link to registration are available [here](#). Please [contact us](#) with questions.

2025 ABC Annual Meeting Schedule Available

Join us for the 63rd ABC [Annual Meeting](#) in Arlington, Va. [Registration](#) is open and the [schedule is available](#). Hear *POLITICO*’s Director of Regulatory Research Laura DiAngelo, MPH deliver the keynote as she addresses the impact of the 2024 Presidential and Congressional elections on the regulatory and congressional landscape. Meeting attendees will gain insights into how the administration’s policy agenda and approach to regulation will impact the blood community, allowing your organization to stay ahead of the curve. This event will also explore the latest developments in advocacy, leadership, operations, science, and medicine, connecting and preparing your C-suite and senior leadership for the most critical topics facing your blood center. Following the success of last year’s revamped format and expanded content offerings, we will continue this approach in 2025. [Sponsorship opportunities](#) are also available. Please [contact us](#) with any questions as we look forward to seeing you!

Executive Compensation Report Available

ABC has published the 2024 Executive Compensation Survey Report. This resource is available complimentary to participating ABC member blood centers. Non-participating member blood centers may [purchase](#) the report which is an important tool for blood center chief executive officers (CEOs) and their boards for setting executive salaries/benefits, as well as meeting the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 requirements to demonstrate comparability of CEO compensation. Please [contact us](#) with questions.

Register for the 2025 ADRP Annual Conference

[Register now](#) for the [2025 ADRP Annual Conference](#) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from May 6th to 8th at the Omni Oklahoma City Hotel. Remember to [book your hotel room](#) by April 11th for the discounted rate. This conference offers a chance to learn about industry trends, share ideas, and connect with other donor recruitment, donor services, collections, marketing, and communications professionals. Join more than 400 of your peers by participating in pre-conference workshops, attending compelling educational sessions, engaging in roundtable discussions, and exploring an expansive exhibit hall filled with innovative solutions. [Seize this extraordinary opportunity](#) to learn, share, and grow within the blood community. 💧





RESEARCH IN BRIEF

British Society for Haematology Guideline for Investigation and Management of RBC Antibodies During Pregnancy. A [guideline](#) for investigating and managing red blood cell (RBC) antibodies in pregnancy has been published in *Transfusion Medicine*. It was “compiled according to the British Society for Haematology (BSH) process.” The authors conducted, “[a] search of published literature [using] the Cochrane Library, Pubmed, MedLine, cover[ing] 1999 to March 2022 and [restricted it] to manuscripts written in English.” They noted that, “[t]he aim [of the guideline] is to predict the potential for, and where possible, prevent, h[e]molytic disease of the f[et]us and newborn.” A summary of some of the recommendations is as follows:

- Fetal Genotyping: “It is possible to determine f[et]tal RHD, RHCE and KEL*01 genotypes using cell-free f[et]tal DNA from maternal blood samples, thereby avoiding the need for invasive f[et]tal blood sampling.”
- Requirements for Blood: “For women with multiple antibodies or antibodies against high prevalence antigens an assessment of the likelihood of maternal need for blood, and discussion of appropriate measures to reduce the likelihood of transfusion, including correction of any h[e]matinic deficiency, should take place as early in pregnancy as feasible between the maternity and h[e]matology staff. Multidisciplinary planning of delivery should take place to reduce blood loss and intra-operative cell salvage should be available where appropriate. [This] ensures optimal use of rare blood, taking account of the needs of the patient and the scarcity of the blood. Clear communication is required between teams within a hospital, and also between hospitals if cases are referred to tertiary cent[ers], to ensure appropriate management of transfusion in the mother and the baby.”
- Blood for Neonatal Exchange: “For intrauterine transfusion (IUT) or neonatal exchange transfusion if maternal antibodies other than anti-D, -c, -C, -E or -K are present, advance warning of at least 24 hours should be given where possible to ensure that blood of suitable specification and negative for all relevant antigens, is available.”
- Blood for Neonatal Small Volume Transfusion: “Clinicians considering transfusion in a neonate must check if the baby has had an IUT, a[nd] if so, blood must be irradiated to prevent transfusion-associated graft-versus-host disease.”
- Blood for Emergency Situations: “Obstetric, h[e]matology and transfusion laboratory staff should discuss when to give alternative blood, when sufficient compatible blood is not readily available, based on the balance of clinical risks (severe h[e]morrhage versus a h[e]molytic transfusion reaction with potential associated complications, including renal failure).”

The authors concluded that, “[a]udits of clinical and laboratory practice should be undertaken on a continuing basis to ensure compliance with these guidelines and, where identified, variance or concerns in relation to compliance, should be addressed.”

Citation: Regan, F., Veale, K., Robinson, F., *et al.* “[Guideline for the investigation and management of red cell antibodies in pregnancy: A British Society for Haematology guideline.](#)” *Transfusion Medicine*. 2025.

Contributed by Richard Gammon, MD 

GLOBAL NEWS

A paper [published](#) in *BMC Infectious Diseases* reported data from a seroprevalence study of blood donors in southern Italy for anti-West Nile virus (WNV) antibodies and evaluated the use of mitigation strategies against mosquito bites. The researchers explained that the study period was from November 2023 to February 2024 and included blood donors between the ages of 18-65 and enrolled 1,579 individuals. The study found that, “[t]he questionnaires administered revealed that 68.6 percent of the subjects had not made any trips in the few weeks prior to blood sampling, and 30.5 percent remembered being

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GLOBAL NEWS (continued from page 7)

bitten by mosquitoes in the previous 15 days or longer. While 17 samples tested by ELISA were positive for anti-WNV IgG, only six were also positive when tested by CLIA. Analysis by PRNT for WNV confirmed 5 cases (PRNT80 \geq 10), representing 0.32 percent (95 percent CI: 0.07–0.59) of the sera. [Of all the reactive sera tested for USUV by PRNT analysis, two were positive (PRNT80 \geq 10). Both serum samples were also positive for WNV by PRNT (PRNT80 \geq 10), indicating either infection with both viruses (simultaneously or at different times) or cross-reactivity.” The authors concluded that, “[o]ur study suggests the circulation of WNV in Apulia and highlights the potential human health concerns associated with this emerging virus. Therefore, strengthening the integrated surveillance system and planning adequate preventive strategies are crucial next steps to address the potential massive spread of WNV in southern Italy. From this perspective, vector control, screening of blood and organ donors, regular use of protective measures against mosquitoes by the general population and early identification of symptomatic infections through greater tendency toward laboratory diagnosis could be reinforced to control the spread of WNV in the region.”

Citation: Centrone, F. Procacci, R., Melilli, R. *et al.* “[First seroprevalence study of West Nile Virus \(WNV\) infection in blood donors after the upsurge of West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease \(WNND\) cases in southern Italy in 2023.](#)” *BMC Infectious Diseases*. 2025.

Researchers at Sanquin, the national blood provider for the Netherlands, and Amsterdam University Medical Center (UMC) are [studying](#) the, “protein profiles in plasma of patients with Waldenström disease [with the aim of finding] yet unknown deviations in the protein pattern.” Pieter Langerhorst, a postdoctoral researcher at Molecular Hematology at Sanquin, and Wouter Verhaar, a clinical scientist at the Hematology department of Amsterdam UMC, are leading the research efforts and are the first to explore the disease by examining protein profiles. “People with the rare Waldenström disease form a heterogeneous group of patients. It is not clear why patients with this malignant blood disease differ so much from each other, making it difficult to predict the course of their disease.” According to a Sanquin announcement, by using proteomics, “[the researchers] can then look at the immune system, clotting factors, small signal proteins and acute phase proteins that the liver produces under physical stress. This gives [them] an idea of how the molecular processes in the blood will be different as a result of the tumor. We will find these differences by comparing protein profiles of patients with those of healthy people and with those of people with a pre-stage of the disease that is on the verge of malignant. Our approach is a hypothesis-generating technique. At the end of our study, there will be more questions than at the beginning.”

(Source: Sanquin [Announcement](#), 2/11/25)

Bavarian Nordic A/S has [received](#) a “positive opinion recommending marketing authorization” from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) for its investigational chikungunya vaccine candidate (VIMKUNYA®). The January 31st announcement noted that the recommendation is for, “active immunization for the prevention of disease caused by chikungunya virus in individuals 12 years and older [and is] primarily based on results from two phase III clinical trials which enrolled more than 3,500 healthy individuals 12 years of age and older and demonstrated a rapid immune response starting to develop within one week. The studies met their primary endpoints, with results showing that 21 days after vaccination, the vaccine induced neutralizing antibodies in up to 97.8 percent of the vaccinated individuals. The vaccine was well-tolerated across both studies and vaccine-related adverse events were mainly mild or moderate in nature.” The European Commission is expected to decide on marketing authorization approval later this year. Additionally, Bavarian Nordic anticipates submitting, “a Marketing Authorization Application (MAA) to the UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) under the International Recognition Procedure (IRP), with potential approval of the chikungunya vaccine in the UK in the first half of 2025.” The company also noted that,

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“[t]he vaccine is also currently under priority review with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), with a Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) action date [of] February 14th, 2025.”

(Source: Bavarian Nordic A/S [News Release](#), 1/31/25) 💧

COMPANY NEWS

Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies (Terumo BCT) will host a webinar on Thursday, February 20th titled “Launch into the Future of Whole Blood with Revolutionary Reveos.” [Registration](#) is open for this event. Hear ImpactLife, a member of America’s Blood Centers (ABC), Director of Customer Relations Ashley Engen, MLS(ASCP), SBB and Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati, a member of ABC, Chief Blood Operations Officer Judith Gonzalez, BS, MLS(ASCP), CABP share insights and discuss implementation considerations for Terumo BCT’s [Reveos system](#).

(Source: Terumo BCT [Announcement](#), 1/29/25)

CSL Behring recently [reported](#) four-year results from a study of the company’s gene therapy to treat hemophilia B. Hemgenix® (etranacogene dezaparvovec-drlb) is a one-time infusion that was [approved](#) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in November 2022 as the first to treat hemophilia B in adult patients. According to the news release, 51 out of 54 participants in the phase III, open-label, single-dose, single-arm HOPE-B trial, “completed four years of follow-up. HEMGENIX produced mean factor IX levels of 41.5 IU/dL (n=50) at year one, 36.7 IU/dL (n=50) at year two, 38.6 IU/dL (n=48) at year three and 37.4 IU/dL (n=47) at year four post-infusion. In addition, the mean adjusted annualized bleeding rate (ABR) for all bleeds was reduced by approximately 90 percent from lead-in (4.16, n=54) as compared to year four (0.40, n=51). Furthermore, joint bleeds were reduced from a mean ABR of 2.34 at lead-in to 0.09 during year four. In year four, 94 percent of patients remained free of continuous prophylaxis treatment. No patients returned to continuous prophylaxis between year three and year four. There were no serious adverse events related to treatment with HEMGENIX. HEMGENIX was generally well-tolerated, with a total of 96 treatment-related adverse events (AEs), 92 (96 percent) of which occurred in the first six months post-treatment. The most common adverse events were an increase in alanine transaminase (ALT), for which nine (16.7 percent) participants received supportive care with reactive corticosteroids for a mean duration of 81.4 days (standard deviation: 28.6; range: 51-130 days.”

(Source: CSL Behring [News Release](#), 2/7/25)

Safi Biotherapeutics and **ARMI | BioFabUSA**, a non-profit organization and Department of Defense Manufacturing Innovation Institute, have [announced](#) a partnership that will, “focu[s] on the manufacturing of Safi’s [stem-cell derived,] manufactured human red blood cells (mRBCs) to support regulatory requirements and initial clinical studies.” The news release explained that the collaboration, “will support Safi’s mRBC process development at large scale, an early critical step in improving mRBC commercial viability.” In December 2024, Safi Biotherapeutics was [granted](#), “the Rare Pediatric Disease Designation (RPDD) and Orphan Drug Designation (ODD) for their mRBCs for use in the chronic transfusion of sickle cell patients” by FDA.

(Source: Safi Biotherapeutics [News Release](#), 2/10/25) 💧



CALENDAR

Note to subscribers: Submissions for a free listing in this calendar (published weekly) are welcome. Send information to newsletter@americasblood.org. (For a more detailed announcement in the weekly "Meetings" section of the newsletter, please include program information.)

2025

Feb. 20. **Terumo Blood and Cell Technology Launch in the Future of Whole Blood Revolutionary Reveos Webinar.** [Registration](#) is open.

Feb. 25. **America's Blood Centers (ABC) Advocacy Forum Webinar: "What We Know about the Start of the Trump Administration."** A link to registration and more information are available [here](#).

Feb. 26. **ABC Webinar: "An Overview of Whole Blood Derived Platelets & Cold Stored Platelets."** A link to registration and more information are available [here](#).

Feb. 27. **ABC "Staying Ahead in the Digital Landscape" Webinar.** A link to registration and more information are available [here](#).

Mar. 10-12. **ABC Annual Meeting, Arlington, Va.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

May 6-8. **2025 ADRP Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, Okla.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

May 14-15. **International Plasma and Fractionation Association (IPFA)/Paul-Ehrlich Institut[e] (PEI) 30th International Workshop on Surveillance and Screening of Blood-borne Pathogens, Heidelberg, Germany.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

May 20-21. **International Plasma Protein Congress, Warsaw, Poland.** More information is coming soon.

June 1-4. **International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) 35th Regional Congress, Milan, Italy.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

June 10-11. **ABC Advocacy Workshop, Washington, D.C.** More information is coming soon.

June 25-26. **HHS ODP TBDAIC Community Engagement Meeting (Hybrid), Portland, Maine.** More information coming soon.

June 30-July 1. **HHS Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) Industry Day 2025 (Hybrid), Washington, D.C.** More information available [here](#).

Sept. 10. **FDA CBER Office of Blood Research and Review (OBRR) Public Webinar: FDA Review of Biologics License Applications for Blood and Source Plasma (Virtual).** More information coming soon.

Oct. 12-15. **American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga.** More information is coming soon.

Oct. 25-28. **AABB Annual Meeting, San Diego, Calif.** More information is coming soon.

Nov. 17-20. **American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [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 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, e-mail: newsletter@americasblood.org



POSITIONS

Medical Laboratory Scientist - Blood Bank (Overnight). LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is looking for an experienced Medical Laboratory Scientist, with a passion for making a difference, to join our Immunohematology Reference Laboratory team in Atlanta, GA. The position is responsible for following established policies and procedures, identifying problems that may adversely affect test performance or reporting of test results, and either correct the problems or immediately notify a supervisor, manager, or director. The Medical Laboratory Scientist will resolve complex immunohematology and compatibility problems to provide the safest donor blood for the patients in our community. We focus on providing the best possible customer service. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position, and [apply here!](#)

Associate Medical Director/Medical Director (Versiti Blood Center of Ohio). Serve as the physician face of Versiti and Versiti Ohio, translating complex medical issues to educate other physicians, support staff and the public. Opportunities in educational initiatives and clinical/applied research are available within Versiti and with our affiliated health systems. As part of the Versiti physician team you will have the opportunity to participate in clinical research projects with investigators at our world-renowned diagnostic laboratory and blood research institute. Joining our Medical Science Institute transfusion medicine physician team will provide you with a uniquely diverse and collaborative experience. Requirements: MD or DO Degree. Board certified/eligible in Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine. At least three years of experience in blood center/transfusion medicine practice preferred. Licensed or eligible for an Ohio and Indiana; other state licenses may be required. Driver's License in good standing. Please click [here](#) to read the full job description and apply.

Laboratory Testing Operations Vice President (Oklahoma City, OK). Our Blood Institute is looking for a **Laboratory Testing Operations Vice President** who will provide strategic planning, operational management, budgeting, and leadership to OBI and provide technical and leadership support to the Testing Lab, and Quality Control Lab. Overseeing the day-to-day operations, implementing business plans, managing the department's P&L, and fostering high performance, customer-oriented culture. All tasks undertaken, regardless of their timing, that have clear applicability to blood banking and transfusion medicine are considered within this position's scope of employment and are, therefore, subject to the Institute's Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures. Successful applicants must have a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology and a minimum of ten years' progressive management in a related medical industry. **Salary Range:** Competitive salary with excellent benefits package including health, dental, vision, and life

insurance, 401(k), paid time off, and holiday pay. **How to apply:** <https://obi.org/about/careers/>

Director of Donor Services (Fixed and Mobile Collections). Shepard Community Blood Center in Augusta, Georgia, seeks an ambitious leader to oversee the delivery of industry-leading customer service to its donors. This position is challenging, and the director of donor services must be willing to adapt to change, solve problems independently, and communicate effectively within their department and across the organization. The ideal candidate will be able to juggle multiple projects, hold others accountable, and manage their time efficiently. Shepard has a fleet of ten collection vehicles, six fixed sites, and nearly 50 donor services staff, all reporting up to the Director of Donor Services. The organization achieved record collection in 2024 and expects continued growth in the coming years. A generous benefits package, including up to a 7% employer 401(k) contribution, relocation expenses, and ample PTO, is available for a successful candidate. Shepard also provides cost-of-living raises, merit raises, and annual bonuses. The ideal candidate will have at least five years of experience in blood banking, healthcare, or nursing. A bachelor's degree and five years of management experience are required. Those interested can learn more by going to shepardblood.org and clicking "jobs" at the top of the home screen.

Medical Director/Associate Medical Director. Carter BloodCare seeks a passionate and dedicated **Medical Director/Associate Medical Director** to join our mission driven team in North Texas. This role offers the opportunity to collaborate with a dynamic group of medical professionals and lead innovative initiatives that save lives every day. As Medical Director/Associate Medical Director, you'll play a pivotal role in the medical and technical oversight of blood centers, transfusion services, and advanced biotherapies. Working closely with the Chief Medical Officer and fellow directors, you will ensure our operations remain at the forefront of transfusion medicine. From providing consultative expertise to fostering relationships with healthcare providers, your work will directly influence patient care across the region. Carter BloodCare seeks candidates with an MD, DO, or equivalent degree, board certification/eligibility in Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine, and qualified for an unrestricted medical license in Texas. The successful candidate will bring expertise, compassion, and a collaborative spirit to this vital role with strong knowledge and experience in blood banking and/or advanced biotherapies. This is a chance to join an organization dedicated to excellence and innovation in transfusion medicine. Apply at [//www.carterbloodcare.org/careers](http://www.carterbloodcare.org/careers). Carter BloodCare is an EEO/Affirmative Action employer.

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POSITIONS (continued from page 11)

Supply Chain Manager. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking a highly skilled leader with proven management experience and a passion for making a difference. The Supply Chain Manager at our headquarters location in Gainesville, FL is responsible for vendor selection, negotiation, establishment and maintenance of all purchased materials, supplies, equipment, and services used by the company. The Supply Chain Manager is organized and decisive and can motivate the team to reach daily and long-range goals. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position, and [apply here!](#)

Cord Blood Program Supervisor. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is looking for a bilingual (English and Spanish), highly skilled leader with proven supervisory experience and a passion for making a difference to join the team in the role of Cord Blood Program Supervisor in Miami, Fla. This position is responsible for educating the public about cord blood donation, recruiting new cord blood donors, and working closely with hospitals, while providing supervisory oversight of Cord Blood Donation Recruitment Specialists. LifeSouth Cord Blood Bank is a community-based public cord blood bank that collects and stores umbilical cord blood for the purpose of clinical cures and research in the field of stem cell transplantation. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position, and [apply here!](#)

Cord Blood Donor Recruitment Specialist – Miami. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is looking for a bilingual (English and Spanish) candidate with strong interpersonal skills and a genuine passion for making a difference to fill the role of Cord Blood Donor Recruitment Specialist in Miami, Fla. In this position you will be responsible for tasks related to cord blood education, consent, and training. Must be comfortable interacting regularly with collection facilities staff, the general public, and donor mothers regarding cord blood collection and donations. LifeSouth Cord Blood Bank is a community-based public cord blood bank that collects and stores umbilical cord blood for the purpose of clinical cures and research in the field of stem cell transplantation. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position, and [apply here!](#)

Director, Blood Drive Partnerships. Be part of something bigger and change the world with us by joining **ImpactLife's** leadership team as a **Director, Blood Drive Partnerships**. The Director is responsible for the planning, development, organization, coordination, and management of the field recruitment team to secure organizational blood drive sponsors and volunteer blood drive coordinators. This role ensures adequate blood donations from mobile blood drives and center locations to meet patient needs and financial goals. Candidates must

reside in and be able to travel within our territory footprint within Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, and Wisconsin; have a minimum of eight years' leadership experience working in business-to-business sales, partnership development and/or public relations; have a minimum of five years of multi-state or multi-community supervisory/management experience; and hold a bachelor's degree (preferred) with a concentration in business development, marketing, communications, or public relations. For more information including job details, benefits, and compensation click here: [Join Us!](#)

Chief Operations Officer (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). Our Blood Institute (OBI), America's largest, self-sufficient blood center is seeking a seasoned, successful, and inspiring Chief Operations Officer (COO). The COO will provide leadership, guidance, and oversight for core blood center operations to include Donor Recruitment; Donor Services; Technical Operations; Client Relations/Contracting; 8 Subcenter, and 9 Satellite operations. This position will assure donor and product safety. He/She will recruit and foster the talent required to staff a dependable, high performance, engaged, and innovative team now and for the future. They will develop annual budgets at the organizational level (demand planning) and for supervised departments, with an eye to maximizing efficiencies and expanding revenue streams. They will also recommend new technologies and capital expenditures that are necessary to keep the organization's operations at the leading edge of performance. They will maintain productive industry collaborations and relationships via group purchasing organizations and professional/industry associations while working with executive leadership to shape strategic plans to benefit the organization's principle functions of blood product acquisition, processing, and distribution. Salary Range: Competitive salary with excellent benefits package including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, 401(k), paid time off, and holiday pay. **How to apply:** <https://obi.org/about/careers/>

Operations Manager. Blood Assurance is seeking an **Operations Manager** to manage our collection efforts in the Georgia area. This position will be responsible for operational oversight of collection services for multiple collection teams in an assigned territory. Supervises staff in coordination with other department leaders and ensures compliance with all Standard Operating Procedures, FDA and AABB regulations. Monitors performance in the areas of productivity, proficiency, and customer service. Operations Manager Requirements: A bachelor's degree with some prior supervisory/management experience in blood banking is required. Advanced skills in leadership, teamwork, analytics, and communications are also required. We offer many benefits including: Health/Dental/Vision Insurance, Flexible Spending Account, Employee Assistance Program for

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you and your family, Generous Paid Time Off, 401K with company match and Wellness Program. Blood Assurance is a non-profit organization with a workforce of more than 300 employees. At Blood Assurance, our values are centered around LIFE: Laughter, Integrity, Family and Excellence. These values are embedded in our company culture. Come and join our team to be a part of this rewarding environment! Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit an online employment application for consideration at [//bloodassurance.org/careers](http://bloodassurance.org/careers). Blood Assurance is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Tobacco Free Workplace.

Assistant/Associate/Full Professor, Clinical Track (Hoxworth Blood Center). Hoxworth Blood Center (HBC) was founded in 1938 and serves more than 30 hospitals in 18 counties in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. Annually, HBC collects more than 100,000 units of blood from local donors to help save the lives of patients in area hospitals. HBC is located within the University of Cincinnati (UC), College of Medicine, and is seeking an academic physician to advance clinical services and research in Blood Banking and Transfusion Medicine. The rank of the clinical track appointment is open and will be commensurate with the experience and professional accomplishments of the selected applicant. Essential Functions: Provide clinical blood banking/transfusion medicine coverage in an active academic transfusion service supporting a robust academic teaching hospital specializing in hematology/oncology, high risk obstetrics, organ transplantation and surgery; including a Level I Trauma Center. Provide medical coverage for a large regional independent blood collection center with an active apheresis program supporting cell therapy collections. Engage in the training of Transfusion Medicine fellows, pathology residents, and rotating fellows, residents, and medical students. Minimum Requirements: MD or MD/PhD; Board eligibility or Board certification in Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine; and active or eligible for a State of Ohio Medical License. Click [here](#) to view the full job description and apply. EOE ♠