

To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations
Date: April 2, 2025
Re: Pooled Platelets Acceptance

Update

In May 2024, Carter BloodCare provided the following information regarding the acceptance of whole blood derived pooled platelets as part of your platelet transfusion strategy. As a reminder, whole blood derived pooled platelets are a therapeutic equivalent to apheresis platelets and will be dispatched to fill platelet requests by the Hospital Services department interchangeably.

Background

For fifteen years, Carter BloodCare has been offering pooled whole blood derived platelets as a therapeutic equivalent to apheresis platelets. Historically, about 10% of our platelet supply consisted of pooled platelets. However, with platelet demand increasing at a rate that outpaces collections along with the aging donor pool, we must augment the platelet supply by maximizing the production of pooled platelets from whole blood collections. With platelet usage at its highest, it is inevitable that demand could consistently exceed the available supply. This modification, however, will allow us to collectively meet platelet transfusion needs with minimal disruptions or delays.

Client Action

This memo serves two purposes. First, it provides a brief description of the pooled platelet, along with product code information and example labels. Second, it is critically important for your platelet strategies to allow for the acceptance of pooled platelets as an equivalent therapeutic dose to fill a platelet order. Aligning your platelet transfusion strategy with platelet production at Carter BloodCare will help minimize any interruption to your patient support, especially during the upcoming summer weeks. Carter BloodCare's medical services team is available to consult and answer any questions regarding pooled platelets with your medical director. Please be prepared to accept pooled platelets into your transfusion service.

Pooled Platelet System

Imugard™ (Pool and Store) Platelets

- Imugard™ platelets, or “pool and store” platelets, are available as therapeutic equivalent to apheresis platelets.
- What are Imugard™ platelets? Imugard™ platelets are a pool of 5 whole blood-derived platelet concentrates prepared by the blood center. The pool is sampled for bacterial contamination detection by the same method used for apheresis platelets, and the pool is leukoreduced. The pooling method and storage bag allow for 7-day

storage. All units in the pool will have the same ABO type. The units may have the same Rh type or may be of mixed Rh type, in which case they will be labeled as “pooled” Rh type.

ISBT Code Product Description

Code	Product Description
EA790	POOLED PLATELETS CPD/XX/20-24C ResLeu:<5E6 5 units Bacterial monitoring
EA793	POOLED PLATELETS CPD/XX/20-24C Irradiated ResLeu:<5E6 5 units Bacterial monitoring

Product Code Barcode Examples

