



**To:** Transfusion Services Managers  
**From:** Hospital Relations  
**Date:** July 28, 2025  
**Re:** Update: Blood Supply at Critical

### Update

The red blood cell inventory has reached **critically low levels**. Please keep in mind that lower daily summer collections also impact the availability of Low Titer Group O Whole Blood (LTOWB). Please expect delays in turnaround time for the receipt of LTOWB. While platelet availability has not yet reached critical, the need for platelet donors remains urgent.

### Background

The current red blood cell inventory is below optimal inventory. The daily demand continues to outpace the summer daily collections and projections. Additional donor recruitment actions and import opportunities are ongoing. We will continue to provide updates throughout the summer.

### Impact to Clients

- Daily red cell orders may need to be triaged.
- If an order is needed for imminent transfusion, please communicate the urgency to hospital services.
- Red cell orders, including red cell rotation and standing orders, could be reduced, re-scheduled or delayed.
- Please be reminded that all back orders are cancelled at midnight each day to avoid ordering confusion and must be re-ordered as appropriate.

### Client Action Required

- Notify appropriate staff and medical director as applicable. Implement a triage process to help manage the current supply.
- Please cooperate with hospital services as blood orders are triaged.
- Be prepared to release red cells or platelets to meet trauma and/or definite transfusion needs *elsewhere* as the blood center inventory may not be able to support.
- Please encourage family, friends and colleagues to donate blood. The following toolkit is available for your use to help drive awareness and blood donations. [Carter BloodCare Share the Need and Critical Need Toolkit](#).

### Questions and Additional Information:

We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding and we are grateful for the partnerships that we enjoy with you in the service of your patients.

Please contact [hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org](mailto:hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org) with any concerns.