



To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations Department
Date: October 17, 2017
Re: Bacterial Testing of Apheresis & Acrodose[®] Platelets

Currently, Carter BloodCare utilizes the Haemonetics' eBDS system to detect bacteria in apheresis and Acrodose[®] platelets prior to release for distribution. Unfortunately, the vendor will no longer support this product as of December 2017. As a result, we will begin using the BacT/ALERT[®] culture system tentatively on November 1, 2017.

Impact to Client:

1. A new quality assurance form, *QAF403.01 Suspected Component Contamination Notification*, will be employed to communicate any suspected product contamination.
2. Please know that recall notices may occur after distribution as the culture must be held for the shelf life of the platelet (5 days). If a positive alert on the BacT/ALERT[®] culture system occurs after shipment, your facility will be notified.
3. Your standard operating procedures should be updated to incorporate management of recalls for suspected bacterial contamination in platelet products that have been distributed or transfused. In our current system, platelet products are not distributed prior to completion of bacterial testing.