



# ABC NEWSLETTER

CURRENT EVENTS AND TRENDS IN BLOOD SERVICES

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

2019 #7

March 1, 2019

**INSIDE:**

Federal Task Force Seeks to Expedite Availability of Diagnostic Tests During Public Health Emergencies .....2

February *Blood Bulletin* Available.....3

Call for Volunteers!.....3

April SMT Journal Club Webinar Articles Announced .....4

57<sup>th</sup> ABC Annual Meeting Registration Open .....4

Registration Open for ABC Quality and Technical Workshop .....4

RESEARCH IN BRIEF ....5

RECENT REVIEWS .....6

REGULATORY NEWS....6

WORD IN WASHINGTON .....7

GLOBAL NEWS .....8

STOPLIGHT®: Status of America's Blood Centers' Blood Supply .9

MEMBER NEWS.....9

COMPANY NEWS .....10

ABC 2019 Meetings & Workshops .....11

Upcoming ABC Webinars – Don't Miss Out!.....11

CALENDAR.....11

POSITIONS.....13

## ABC Announces 2019 Advocacy Agenda

America's Blood Centers (ABC), in consultation with its Board of Directors and the ABC Policy Council, has established the 2019 Advocacy Agenda. It will focus on ABC's efforts to promote the value of blood components to patients, communities, and healthcare systems through:

1. prioritizing blood donation as a national imperative;
2. recognizing the vital role of blood components in health and wellness; and
3. reducing unnecessary and burdensome regulations.

To assist with prioritizing blood donation as a national imperative, ABC will continue advocacy efforts to raise awareness of the consistent need for blood donation from a diverse group of donors. Additionally, the association will look to focus on the disproportionate reliance of type O blood donors through the implementation of utilization practices.

In recognizing the role of blood in health and wellness, ABC will explore pathways for reimbursement for mandated safety and technological measures on behalf of its member blood centers, while looking to remove barriers to appropriate reimbursement for blood components. Also, ABC will look to implement a national data platform for blood collection and utilization to assist with analysis of both the status of the blood supply and evidence-based decision making in formulating the positions of ABC's role in public health, preparedness, and response efforts.

Additionally, ABC will seek to reduce unnecessary and burdensome regulations through several approaches including evaluating infectious disease testing burdens from previously identified health economic thresholds and urging regulators to finalize the platelet bacterial guidance that acknowledges and addresses the potential impact of blood availability. The association will strive to maximize the use of blood products by advocating for regulations from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to be amended that currently require blood products to be discarded from internal processing errors at blood centers that ultimately do not impact the safety or potency of blood products.

The complete 2019 advocacy agenda is available to ABC member blood centers on the member [website](#). ABC encourages all members to attend Advocacy Day 2019

(continued on page 2)

## 2019 Advocacy Agenda (continued from page 1)

on Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup> during the ABC Annual Meeting. Members will have the opportunity to take their priorities directly to Capitol Hill. ABC will schedule all appointments for interested members. A webinar will take place on April 11<sup>th</sup> to review the advocacy agenda.

(Sources: [ABC 2019 Advocacy Agenda](#)) ♦

## **Federal Task Force Seeks to Expedite Availability of Diagnostic Tests During Public Health Emergencies**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have formed a [Tri-Agency Task Force for Emergency Diagnostics](#) to improve preparedness efforts. According to the agencies, the goal of the newly launched task force is to “advance rapid development and deployment” of diagnostics tests in both the clinical and public lab setting in times of public health emergencies. It aims to increase efficiencies, interagency communication and coordination, while streamlining implementation processes. “Public health emergencies, like Ebola outbreaks, remind us that we’re a global community when it comes to public health protection... To that end, the FDA knows that collaborating with our federal partners to employ our collective expertise, experiences from previous incidents, and resources will better assist in a global response,” said Jeffrey Shuren, MD, JD, director of the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health in a joint news [release](#). “We also believe that this task force could lead to more innovation for diagnostic tests as developers will see a more predictable federal regulatory response through the agencies’ coordination.”

FDA has the authority to declare “An Emergency Use Authorization” (EUA) to make diagnostic tests available quicker in public health emergencies. Clinicians previously had questions concerning the implementation of diagnostic tests, while adhering to Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) regulations. “During public health emergencies, ensuring the health and safety of patients through quality laboratory testing will remain the focus of CMS,” said Kate Goodrich, director of the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality and CMS Chief Medical Officer in the release. “Timely implementation of EUA diagnostic assays in the US healthcare system is dependent upon laboratories understanding the instructions for use and applying them to the patient samples received for testing. As part of this taskforce, it is our goal to provide clear and consistent guidance to laboratories on the application of CLIA requirements for these emergency assays.”

(Source: FDA, CDC, CMS Joint News [Release](#), 2/26/19) ♦

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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 recognize 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 healthcare 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.

### **America’s Blood Centers**

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Send news tips to [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org).



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## 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.*

### February Blood Bulletin Available

ABC's Scientific, Medical, and Technical (SMT) Publications Committee, has published the February 2019 Issue ([PDF](#) or [MS Word](#) versions available for ABC members) of the [Blood Bulletin](#), titled "The Appropriate Use of Liquid Plasma."

The article was written by Marissa Li, MD, Medical Director at Vitalant and Chris Gresens, MD, Senior Chief Medical Officer, North & West Divisions at Vitalant. [Blood Bulletin](#) is reviewed and edited by ABC's SMT Publications Committee.

ABC publishes the *Blood Bulletin* for you to use in your educational programs as a value-added service for hospital customers.

(Source: [MCN 19-018](#))

*\*\*Please note: The MS Word version may not display properly for users with older versions of MS Word. For those individuals, we recommend viewing and using the PDF version of this publication instead.\*\**

### Call for Volunteers!

ABC, along with the rest of the blood community, recognizes the need to increase the diversity of the donor base to meet the ongoing needs of various patient populations. To further our mutual work in this area, the blood community is working with the [Sickle Cell Disease Coalition](#) (SCDC), whose membership includes public health, research, and provider organizations, patient groups, faith-based organizations, federal agencies, industry representatives, and foundations, to promote increased awareness surrounding the blood supply and the need for donations.

To accomplish this work, a group of interested representatives will be convened from various blood centers, hospitals, national organizations, and SCDC partner groups. We anticipate initial work will focus on a joint statement regarding the importance of diversity in the blood supply and identification of 2019 priorities. If you are interested in participating or have additional questions, please email [Kate Fry](#).

(continued on page 4)

### 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 and published after editorial review. Please send letters to the Editor at [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org) or fax them to (202) 899-2621. 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.



INSIDE ABC (continued from page 3)

## April SMT Journal Club Webinar Articles Announced

The ABC Scientific, Medical, and Technical (SMT) Journal Club Webinar on April 3rd at noon eastern will feature the articles below:

- Older Blood Is Associated with Increased Mortality and Adverse Events in Massively Transfused Trauma Patients: Secondary Analysis of the PROPPR Trial (*Annals of Emergency Medicine*);
- Bombay Phenotype (O<sub>b</sub>) and High-titer Anti-H in Pregnancy: Two Case Reports and a Review of the Literature (*Transfusion*); and
- Elevated Risk for Iron Depletion in High-School Age Blood Donors (*Transfusion*).

Additional details including registration information is forthcoming.

(Source: ABC Webinar [Announcement](#), 2/19/19)

## 57<sup>th</sup> ABC Annual Meeting Registration Open

[Registration](#) is open for America's Blood Centers' (ABC) 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Ritz-Carlton (Pentagon City). Don't miss an exclusive opportunity for blood center leaders to experience peer-to-peer collaboration, while discussing the latest trends impacting community blood centers. The meeting will feature the Celso Bianco, MD Lectureship & Celebration of Life Reception, the Scientific, Medical, and Technical Forum, Capitol Hill Visits, General Session, and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual *Awards of Excellence*. Please make your hotel [reservations](#) by Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure best availability and the group rate. Click [here](#) for additional details. Contact [Leslie Maundy](#) for available [sponsorship](#) opportunities. 💧

## Registration Open for ABC Quality and Technical Workshop

[Register](#) today for the ABC Quality and Technical Workshop in Bloomington, Minn. at the Embassy Suites Bloomington. [Reserve](#) your room by April 5<sup>th</sup> to secure the group rate of \$139. This year, ABC and Blood Centers of America, Inc. (BCA) are partnering to provide a multiday professional development and educational opportunity for quality and technical blood bank professionals. The BCA IRL Networking Conference/IRL Disease Symposium will take place on April 29-30<sup>th</sup> with the ABC Quality (QA) & Technical Directors (TD) Workshops following it on April 30<sup>th</sup>- May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Additional schedule and registration information are below:

- April 29: BCA IRL Networking Conference (*BCA members-only; BCA will provide registration information*)
- April 30: BCA IRL Disease Symposium (*All ABC members welcome; no registration fee; ABC will provide symposium registration*)
- April 30 – May 1: TD Workshop and Joint TD/QA Session
- May 2: QA Workshop

Registration & Fees:

- Breakfast, lunch, and two receptions included.
- ABC QA/TD Workshop Registration Fees: (Early Bird: mid-Feb-Feb 23/Regular: Feb 24-April 5)
  - TD or QA Workshop: \$360 early bird/\$420 regular
  - TD & QA Workshop: \$435 early bird/\$495 regular 💧



## RESEARCH IN BRIEF

**Possibly contaminated intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) raises concerns in China.** IVIG recently manufactured in China is suspected of being contaminated with HIV. On February 5<sup>th</sup>, the National Health Commission (NHC) issued a notice advising all medical institutions to quarantine and temporarily suspend use of the involved batch after a weak positive HIV antibody was detected in an infant after receiving the IVIG. On February 7<sup>th</sup>, the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) stated that additional nucleic acid detection test found no HIV. NMPA also stated the HIV antibody test of the recipient was now negative. The manufacturer has been ordered to suspend production pending a full investigation. The conflicting results from the Jiangxi Center for Disease Control and NMPA HIV antibody testing are causing public concern. The IVIG manufacturer has not offered any explanation for the test results to date. With the intensive testing procedures in place, the emergence of potentially contaminated IVIG further shook the Chinese public's confidence towards the country's health-care system after expired polio vaccines were released last month. In 2018 a biotechnology company was found to have produced faulty vaccines. "It's difficult to restore faith in the system now, especially after all the medication-related scandals that have happened in recent months," a user commented on the Beijing Youth Weibo page.

**Citation:** Yuan, X. [Plasma suspected to be contaminated causes fear in China](#). *Lancet*. 2019.

Contributed by Richard Gammon, MD, Medical Director at OneBlood ♦

AMERICA'S  
BLOOD  
CENTERS'

## TECHNICAL AND QUALITY WORKSHOP

Bloomington, MN | April 30 - May 2, 2019







**HOTEL INFORMATION:**  
Embassy Suites Bloomington:  
Hotel room rate: \$139

**2019 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

BCA IRL Disease Symposium:	April 30
Technical:	April 30-May 1
Joint Technical & Quality:	May 1
Quality:	May 2

**2019 WORKSHOP FEES**  
(EARLY BIRD/REGULAR)

**TD or QA:** \$360/\$420  
**TD and QA:** \$435/\$495

\*Registration for Technical or Quality includes the Joint Session.

**For registration information, visit [http://bit.ly/abc\\_tq19](http://bit.ly/abc_tq19).**

“ABC is proud to partner with BCA to offer this multi-day educational event for quality and technical blood bank professionals. We hope you will join us for this unique opportunity to learn, collaborate and network with your colleagues from across the industry.”

– Kate Fry, MBA, CEO, America's Blood Centers



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Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact Leslie Maundy at [Imaundy@americasblood.org](mailto:Imaundy@americasblood.org) for details.

## 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!



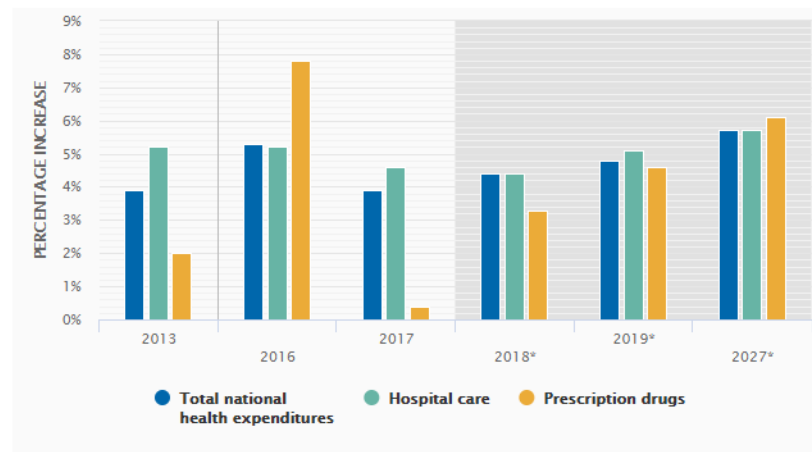
## RECENT REVIEWS

**Blood, the journal of the American Society of Hematology, publishes a review series on transfusion medicine.** In an introductory essay, Mario Cazzola, an associate editor of the journal, notes that “despite continuous improvements, blood transfusion still involves risks, and therefore the implementation of best transfusion practices and guidelines is of fundamental importance in clinical practice. The review series reported in this issue of *Blood* primarily provides an update of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of transfusion reactions for practicing physicians. In addition, this series illustrates how genomics and big data analytics are impacting also this area of medicine”. Included are five reviews covering blood group genotyping, transfusion-related alloantibodies, noninfectious hazards of blood, transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO) and transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) and preventing transfusion-associated infections. The authors are internationally recognized experts in their subject matter and the bibliographies of each manuscript are extensive.

**Citation:** Cazzola, M. [Introduction to a review series on transfusion medicine](#). *Blood*. 2019. ♦

## REGULATORY NEWS

**The Office of the Actuary within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) projects healthcare spending to rise by 5.5 percent over the next 10 years (2018-2027), according to a report in *Modern Healthcare*.** This week, *Health Affairs* [published](#) an article projecting prices to grow by 2.6 percent for hospitals during that time period and 2.5 percent annually for healthcare-related goods and services. “Hospital spending will grow an average of 5.7% per year over the next decade, up from 5.1% in 2019,” according to projections from the actuaries said *Modern Healthcare*. “Hospital prices will rise due to tighter labor markets and continued wage increases for hospital employees, including nurses.”



Source: *Health Affairs* 28, No. 3 (2019): National Health Expenditure Projections, 2018-2027

Modern Healthcare

Chart Courtesy of Modern Healthcare with data from *Health Affairs*

(Source: *Modern Healthcare*, [Healthcare spending will hit 19.4% of GDP in the next decade, CMS projects](#), 2/20/19)





AMERICA'S BLOOD CENTERS'

# 57TH

## ANNUAL MEETING

March 23-26, 2019 | Washington, DC



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### 2019 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

**Saturday, March 23:** International Blood Safety Forum  
ABC Board Meeting

**Sunday, March 24:** General Session  
SMT Forum & Celso Bianco Lectureship  
Celso Bianco Celebration of Life Reception

**Monday, March 25:** ABC Members Meeting  
General Session  
22nd Annual Awards of Excellence

**Tuesday, March 26:** Advocacy Forum  
Capitol Hill Visits

“The ABC Annual Meeting is the premiere opportunity for individuals to explore trends amongst peers within the blood community, contribute their thoughts and ideas to important policy discussions with regulators, while sharing their stories with legislators and networking with industry partners. Value exists for professionals of all experience levels. Join us in Washington, D.C.!”

—Kate Fry, Chief Executive Officer  
America's Blood Centers



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



**Hotel Information**  
Ritz-Carlton (Pentagon City)  
Hotel room rate: \$259



**For registration information, visit [http://bit.ly/abc\\_am19](http://bit.ly/abc_am19).**

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Leslie Maundy at [lmaundy@americasblood.org](mailto:lmaundy@americasblood.org).

## WORD IN WASHINGTON

Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.) is seeking input from healthcare stakeholders to improve cybersecurity safety efforts. According to a news [release](#) from his office, he sent a letter to organizations that included the American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, and AdvaMed, writing, “[t]he increased use of technology in healthcare certainly has the potential to improve the quality of patient care, expand access to care (including by extending the range of services through telehealth), and reduce wasteful spending...However, the increased use of technology has also left the healthcare industry more vulnerable to attack. As we welcome the benefits of healthcare technology, we must also ensure we are effectively protecting patient information and the essential operations of our health care entities.” Both Congress and regulatory officials have prioritized improving cybersecurity in the wake of a report from Government Accountability Office alerting legislators and regulators of potential vulnerabilities in healthcare IT systems that could be exploited. Sen. Warner asked the organizations to answer nine questions:

1. *What proactive steps has your organization taken to identify and reduce its cyber security vulnerabilities?*
2. *Does your organization have an up-to-date inventory of all connected systems in your facilities?*
3. *Does your organization have real-time information on that patch status of all connected systems in your facilities?*
4. *How many of your systems rely on beyond end-of-life software and operating systems?*
5. *Are there specific steps your organization has taken to reduce its cybersecurity vulnerabilities that you recommend be implemented industry wide?*

(continued on page 8)



## WORD IN WASHINGTON (continued from page 7)

6. *One of the imperatives from the Health Care Industry Cybersecurity Task Force Report is for the sector to “develop the health care workforce capacity necessary to prioritize and ensure cybersecurity awareness and technical capabilities.” To that end, what workforce and personnel challenges does your organization face in terms of security awareness and technical capacity? What steps have you taken to develop the security awareness of your workforce and/or add or grow technical expertise within your organization?*
7. *Has the federal government established an effective national strategy to reduce cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the health care sector? If not, what are your recommendations for improvement?*
8. *Are there specific federal laws and/or regulations that you would recommend Congress consider changing in order to improve efforts to combat cyberattacks on health care entities?*
9. *Are there additional recommendations you would make in establishing an industry wide strategy to improve cybersecurity in the health care sector?*

“I would like to work with you and other industry stakeholders to develop a short- and long-term strategy for reducing cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the health care sector,” added Sen. Warner. “It is my hope that with thoughtful and carefully considered feedback we can develop a national strategy that improves the safety, resilience, and security of our health care industry.”

Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a voluntary guide for organizations within the healthcare sector to improve their security against increasing cyberthreats entitled “[Health Industry Cybersecurity Practices \(HICP\): Managing Threats and Protecting Patients](#).”

(Source: Sen. Mark Warner News [Release](#), 2/21/19) ◆

## GLOBAL NEWS

Political unrest in Venezuela has made the country more susceptible to outbreaks of infectious diseases increasing concerns that epidemics may extend to neighboring countries according to a review in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*. The authors believe that diseases such as Chagas, malaria, and Zika may become “uncontrollable” without the appropriate healthcare infrastructure in place to mitigate the risk. “[W]ith its health care system collapsing and a dramatic drop in public health programs and disease surveillance, vector-borne diseases - those transmitted by insects such as mosquitoes and ticks - are on the rise and have spread into new territories across Venezuela,” according to a [report](#) from *Reuters*. Researchers discovered that malaria cases rose by more than 350 percent from 2010-2015 and a 71percent increase in subsequent years (2016-2017) , which they attribute to medication shortages and decreasing mosquito-control activities. “[T]he crisis is having dramatic effects on other vector-borne diseases in Venezuela,” added *Reuters*. “Active transmission of Chagas disease, for example, is the highest seen in 20 years, and incidence of dengue fever has risen more than five-fold.”

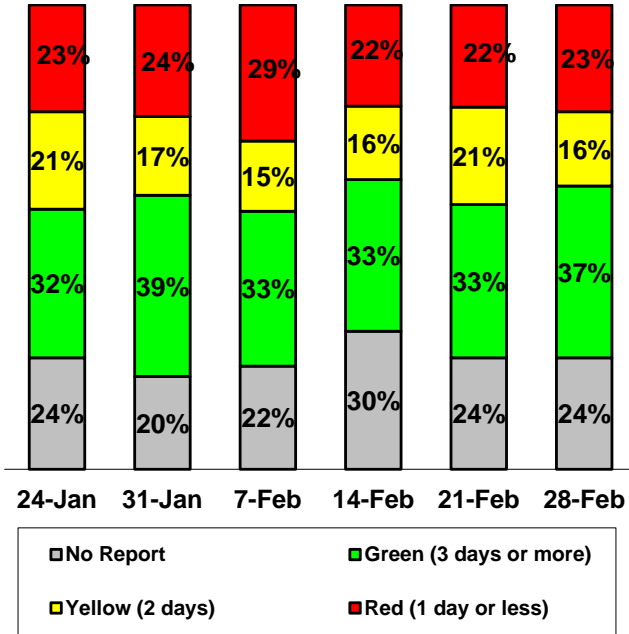
(Source: *Reuters*, [Venezuela crisis could spark surge in infectious diseases: study](#), 2/21/19) ◆



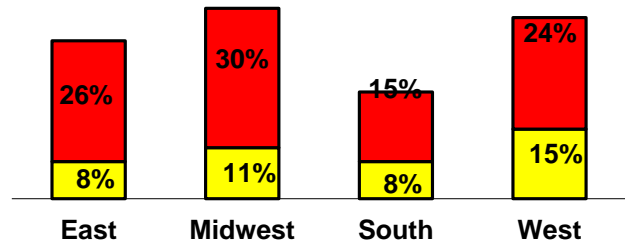


## STOPLIGHT®: Status of America’s Blood Centers’ Blood Supply

Total ABC Red Cell Inventory



Percent of Regional Inventory at 2 Days Supply or Less, February 28, 2019



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

Daily updates are available at:  
[www.AmericasBlood.org](http://www.AmericasBlood.org)

### MEMBER NEWS



**OneBlood (Orlando, Fla.)** and Community Blood Center of the Carolinas (Charlotte, N.C.) formerly announced the [signing](#) of an agreement on February 14<sup>th</sup> for the Carolina-based blood provider to merge with OneBlood. “The time is right for [Community Blood Center of the Carolinas] to take this step and OneBlood is the right partner to help expand our lifesaving services in the Carolinas,” said Martin Grable,

president and CEO of Community Blood Center of the Carolinas and current president of ABC. As a part of the merger, which should be finalized in the coming months, Community Blood Center of the Carolinas will completely rebrand to become OneBlood. Additionally, “[Community Blood Center of the Carolinas] will immediately begin to migrate into OneBlood’s intuitive, cutting-edge software platform,” said OneBlood President and CEO Bud Scholl and current treasurer of America’s Blood Centers. “Approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the system brings enhanced features for donors and hospitals.” Mr. Grable added, “[w]e see no reason to wait in making the switch and are excited to bring this state-of-the-art technology to the Carolinas.” Following the merger, the organizations will distribute more than 1 million blood products each year, while providing service to more than 250 hospitals. OneBlood currently serves Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama. The two blood centers previously announced an intent to merge in December 2018 news release.

(OneBlood, Inc. and Community Blood Center of the Carolinas, Inc. Joint News [Release](#), 2/14/19)

(continued on page 10)



## MEMBER NEWS (continued from page 9)

**Community Blood Center (Dayton, Ohio)** recently honored donor Russell Jenkins for his 200<sup>th</sup> donation. Mr. Jenkins has been a regular blood donor since 1971. He celebrated the milestone with his younger brother Larry, who is at 152 donations, and his good friend Robert Allen, who has been donating with him for the past 18 years. Mr. Jenkins' achievement coincided with his 67<sup>th</sup> birthday.



Larry Jenkins (left), Russell Jenkins (center), and Robert Allen (right) celebrate Russell's 200<sup>th</sup> donation. Photo courtesy of the Beaver Creek News-Current.

(Source: Beaver Creek News-Current, [Donor hits 200th lifetime donation](#), 2/22/19) 💧

## COMPANY NEWS



Sanya Alpha Kennedy (left), Dr. Josephine Githaiga (center), and Hiroshi Nagumo (right) at the press conference announcing the office opening.

**Terumo BCT** announced the opening of a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya to assist with efforts in providing the country with access to safe, adequate, sustainable blood supply. As part of the expansion, Terumo will collaborate with the Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service (KNBTS) on development of donor recruitment and retention program, “[t]he decision to establish a presence in Nairobi is fueled by our mission to Contribute to Society through Healthcare,” said Terumo BCT Senior Vice President of Blood Center Solutions Hiroshi Nagumo in a news [release](#). “Success of healthcare systems can only be achieved through a collaborative and sustainable approach. Opening an office in Nairobi enables us to work closely with our

partners to contribute to locally supported initiatives, such as a donor management program.” KNBTS staff has already received two trainings from Terumo as part of ongoing educational efforts. “We at the KNBTS are committed to ensuring a safe and adequate blood supply for the citizens of Kenya,” said KNBTS CEO Dr. Josephine Githaiga in the news release. “We welcome the collaboration with Terumo BCT that will help us achieve this goal. Our team have already started to implement some of the ideas from the first training given in November 2018. We encourage more public-private partnerships like this to help steer the health sector and ensure that Kenyans are able to access better healthcare.”

(Source: Terumo BCT News [Release](#), 2/7/19) 💧



ABC 2019 Meetings & Workshops				
Meeting/Workshop	Dates	Location	Hotel/Hotel Rate	Registration Dates & Fees
Annual Meeting	March 23-26	Washington, DC	Ritz-Carlton (Pentagon City), \$259/night	<a href="#">Register here by Mar. 1</a> \$760
Technical & Quality Workshop	April 30-May 2	Bloomington, Minnesota	Embassy Suites, \$139/night	Mid-Feb. (Early Bird TD or QA or TD + QA) \$360/\$435; Feb. 25-Apr. 5 (TD or QA or TD + QA) \$420/\$495
<a href="#">ADRP Annual Conference</a>	May 14-16	Indianapolis, Indiana	Hyatt Regency, \$179/night	<a href="#">Register here now</a> Subscribers \$575/\$695 non-subscribers
Medical Directors Workshop	July 30 (precedes Summer Mtg)	Denver, Colorado	Grand Hyatt, \$239/night	Late April - July 5 MD Workshop \$435 MD+Summer \$760
Summer Meeting	July 31-August 1	Denver, Colorado	Grand Hyatt, \$239/night	Late April - July 5 Summer \$655 Summer+MD \$760
<b>Notes:</b> For the most up-to-date information on all events, members of ABC may check the <a href="#">calendar</a> on ABC's Member Site. Non-members may attend all events; information will be updated on ABC's <a href="#">Public Site</a> .				

### Upcoming ABC Webinars – Don't Miss Out!

- **ABC Bylaws Webinar** – March 8<sup>th</sup>. Additional details forthcoming!
- **ADRP Webinar - Diversification of the Donor Pool: Identifying Challenges and Highlighting Strategies for Successful Donor Recruitment and Retention** – March 14<sup>th</sup> – [Register](#) today!
- **SMT Journal Club** – April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Additional details forthcoming!
- **QA Education Webinar – PRT & Double Red Cell Licensure** – April 9<sup>th</sup>. Additional details forthcoming!
- **2019 ABC Advocacy Agenda Webinar** – April 11<sup>th</sup>. Additional details forthcoming!
- **QA Education Webinar – Change Management** – July 16<sup>th</sup>. Additional details forthcoming!

## CALENDAR

*Note to subscribers: Submissions for a free listing in this calendar are welcome. Send information to Leslie Maundy by e-mail ([lmaundy@americasblood.org](mailto:lmaundy@americasblood.org)) or by fax to (202) 899-2621. (For a more detailed announcement in the weekly "Meetings" section of the newsletter, please include program information.)*

### 2019

March 6-7. **IPFA 4th Asia Workshop on Plasma Quality and Supply, Hanoi, Vietnam.** More details available [here](#).

(continued on page 12)

CALENDAR (continued from page 11)

March 7. **22<sup>nd</sup> U.S.-Japan Cellular and Gene Therapy Conference, Silver Spring, MD.** More details available [here](#).

March 20-21. **FDA Blood Products Advisory Committee Meeting, Silver Spring, MD.** More details available [here](#).

March 23. **2019 International Blood Safety Forum, Washington, D.C.** More details available [here](#).

March 24-26. **2019 ABC Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.** More details available [here](#).

April 23-24. **15<sup>th</sup> Annual FDA and the Changing Paradigm for HCT/P Regulation, Washington, D.C.** More details available [here](#).

April 30-May 2. **2019 ABC Technical & Quality Workshop, Minneapolis, Minn.** More details available [here](#).

May 14-16. **ADRP Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Ind.** More details available [here](#).

May 22-23. **IPFA/PEI 26th International Workshop on “Surveillance and Screening of Blood-Borne Pathogens”, Krakow, Poland.** More details available [here](#).

July 30-Aug. 1. **2019 ABC Medical Directors Workshop & Summer Meeting, Denver, Colo.** More details coming soon.



### Equipment Auction

Central Jersey Blood Center will be holding an on-line auction taking place in various segments during the month of March.

The first segment covers lab equipment and furniture and starts March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please, check the link below to register. The process is similar to e-Bay. The auctioneer will charge a 15 percent fee above the quoted prices.

The donor room equipment, donor lists, and office furniture will start at a later date, but the overall process will be completed before the end of March.

This process is organized by an independent party, so please direct all questions to them. The contact information is below:

Auction site: <https://www.auctionlistservices.com/>

Contact: [maria@auctionlistservices.com](mailto:maria@auctionlistservices.com)

Telephone (9-5 EST): 732-542-2077

### 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) 899-2621; e-mail: [lmaundy@americasblood.org](mailto:lmaundy@americasblood.org).

## POSITIONS

**Chief Medical Officer (America's Blood Centers).** Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) is responsible for implementing strategies and tactics, consistent with the best scientific and medical evidence and regulatory requirements, that support America's Blood Centers' (ABC) mission, maintain our values, and realize our vision. The CMO works as part of the ABC Senior Executive Team (SET) to communicate ABC's issues to members, regulators, legislators, and external groups and mobilizes ABC members and professional staff to achieve the strategic goals of the organization. The CMO serves as a public advocate for ABC, maximizing the organization's public presence as a national leader in shaping the future of blood banking, transfusion medicine, and cell therapies. Responsibilities: Represent independent non-profit community blood centers on scientific, medical, and technical matters as well as donor and patient safety concerns before federal agencies, industry and other business partners, allied domestic and international organizations, scientific societies, the media, and the public. Advise the CEO, ABC Board of Directors, and ABC member centers on medical, scientific, technical, safety, and policy issues germane to blood banking. Stay apprised of pertinent regulatory developments and develop effective strategies to achieve success on regulatory issues affecting ABC members. Education & Experience: Medical Degree required. U.S. medical license required with board

certification in a medical specialty. Board certification in pathology, transfusion medicine, hematology, or infectious disease preferred. Ten or more years' experience related to blood banking or transfusion medicine. Three or more years' experience with healthcare and/or blood banking issues at a national level via committee work, offices held, or other appropriate experience. Administrative experience in a leadership role preferred. Please click [here](#) to view the full job description. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to [Kate Fry](#). Applications must be received by March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Manager, Donor Center Operations.** LifeStream (San Bernardino, CA) located 60 miles east of Los Angeles and 50 miles west of Palm Springs seeks qualified applicants for its Manager, Donor Center Operations. This position reports to the Director, Donor Operations and oversees seven donor centers in the region. Responsibilities include ensuring strong customer service, efficient operations and compliance to cGMP Standards. Duties also include oversight of staff training, assignments and performance, equipment monitoring and Quality Control. Responsibilities also include monitoring and trending of donor center productivity and facility/equipment management. Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Human Resources, Nursing or Medical Technology with relevant supervisory/management experience; or three to five years supervisory experience in a Blood Bank setting. Management experience highly preferred. Three to four years of supervisory experience required with a high

level of problem-solving and organizational skills; computer literate; excellent written and oral communication skills; able to maintain confidential information; demonstrate ability to learn and apply new skills efficiently. Current CPR certification and current California Driver's license required. Excellent benefits package with relocation reimbursement available for qualified candidates. LifeStream is an Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V. LifeStream participates in the Federal government E-verify program to determine employment eligibility. **Apply online at <https://www.lstream.org/open-positions/>.**

**Medical Director.** Provide transfusion medicine (TM) clinical care at Heartland Blood Center (HBC) and its associated hospitals in the scope noted below, as well as effort in leadership of the Immunohematology Reference Laboratory (IRL) as Medical Director at HBC/Versiti. Key components of this position would comprise TM consultation and oversight of blood management at HBC and Versiti partner hospitals, as well as participation in educational initiatives and clinical/applied research within both Versiti blood centers and their affiliated health systems. Primary Responsibilities: Oversees blood donor center collections in the Chicago-land and various areas of Indiana. Provides medical direction, including compliance with local, state, and federal regulations and accreditation agencies, for blood center and transfusion services at Versiti affiliated hospitals in Illinois and Indiana. IRL Medical Director for HBC, providing oversight of IRL laboratory staff technical duties and working with Versiti and HBC laboratory management to provide education and skill advancement. Education and Licenses: M.D. or D.O. Degree. Board certified in pathology (AP/CP or CP only), internal medicine, or pediatrics (with subspecialty boards in hematology). Board certified/board eligible in Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine (American Board of Pathology—ABP). Current or eligible for medical licenses in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. Experience/Certifications: Demonstrated experience in both 1) pathology/laboratory medicine or hematology and 2) transfusion medicine. Ability to write lectures and articles using original or innovative techniques or styles; excellent presentation skills with capacity to present to varied audiences. Click [here](#) to view the full job description and to apply.

**Monitoring and Evaluation Fellow (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Reference Code HHS-OASH-2019-0012).** An ORISE research fellowship opportunity is currently available in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), in Washington, DC. An ORISE Fellow will be involved with data collection, analysis, and report development for HHS's Secretary's Minority AIDS Initiative (SMAIF)-funded projects with a particular focus on capturing

(continued on page 14)

## POSITIONS (continued from page 13)

accomplishments, lessons learned and best practices. The Fellow will also be responsible for identifying and implementing strategies, opportunities and mechanisms for increasing the visibility and dissemination of SMAIF programs and activities (and others) designed to improve the health outcomes for MSM, transgender and youth of color who are disproportionately affected by HIV. The initial appointment can be up to one year but may be renewed upon recommendation of HHS contingent on the availability of funds. The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. The appointment is full-time at HHS in the Washington, DC, area. Qualifications: A successful candidate should have a masters or terminal-level degree encompassing a variety of general public health subjects (e.g., epidemiology, biostatistics, health policy, sociology, and health systems). Click [here](#) to apply and view the full job description.

**Director of Quality Assurance (Central California Blood Center).** CCBC (Fresno, California) seeks a Director of Quality Assurance. This critical leadership position reports to the President and CEO and leads the QA department. Responsibilities include assuring that all operational processes and practices are in compliance with FDA, CLIA, State, OSHA and EU regulations, as well as AABB standards and all customer specifications. Collaborates with peers in the senior management team to maintain a safe environment for blood donors and the purity and potency of blood and biological products. Responsible for planning and conducting scheduled and unannounced departmental audits. Shall partner with internal and external experts to upgrade our occurrence management process from paper to electronic. Shall maintain a robust quality management program consistent with cGMP. Shall be expected to actively educate and mentor key department and operations leaders in quality theory and practice. Requirements include at least three years of department leadership experience in a clinical setting, BS with MT(ASCP) and excellent oral and written communication and collaboration skills; MS with

quality certifications, SBB preferred. Competitive salary and benefits, PTO holidays, matching 401(k) plan. Relocation allowance provided. Considering relocating to the Central Valley of California? Fresno is ideally located within a couple hours' drive to Yosemite National Park, Paso Robles wine region, California's Central Coast and the San Francisco Bay area. The Central California Blood Center is committed to saving lives and improving patient care by providing a safe and abundant blood supply for the patients and families in the communities we serve. Together life flows from here. For more information visit [www.donateblood.org/](http://www.donateblood.org/).

**ORISE Fellow (Blood, Tissue, and Tick-Borne Disease Fellowship, Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington D.C. -- DHHS-OASH-2012-0010).** A research and health policy opportunity is available in the Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The selected participant will assist with program management for research projects currently underway within the division relating to U.S. blood, tissue safety and availability, and tick-borne diseases. Opportunities may include: Project management for studies looking at topics relating to blood and tissue collection and utilization, transfusion-transmissible infections in blood donors, and infectious disease markers in potential organ and tissue donors. The Research Participation Program for DHHS is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). The initial appointment is for one year but may be renewed upon recommendation of OASH contingent on the availability of funds and project needs. The participant will receive a monthly stipend based on educational level and experience. Qualifications: A master's degree in public health, knowledge of the regulatory requirements for blood and tissue transplantation and knowledge of tick-borne diseases. Click [here](#) to view the full job description. To be considered, send a current CV/resume to the attention of [Tasha Powell](#). Please reference DHHS-OASH-2012-0010 in all communications. ♦