



**To:** Carter BloodCare Clients  
**From:** Hospital Relations  
**Date:** July 24, 2019  
**Re:** Red Blood Cell Inventory at a Crisis Status

**Overview:**

It is typical for blood centers to see a decline in blood donations during the summer months. High school donations that help sustain the inventory throughout the year are negligible while other competing summer activities take priority over donating blood. It is during these times of decreased blood collections that community blood centers are able to resource share to supplement inventory as needed. However, there is little to no available blood inventory to import throughout the region or nation.

The red blood cell inventory level is at a **Crisis** status. Please be advised that surges in blood needs could deplete inventory in a matter of minutes. Daily demand levels cannot be filled based on the projected collection outlook for the remainder of the month. Carter BloodCare is working with press, TV, and digital/social media partners to assist with community awareness of the urgent need for blood. All blood types are impacted.

**Impact to Clients:**

- Please maintain your stock inventory levels at minimal levels for the remainder of July. Please include crossmatched units in your stock inventory quantity.
- Stock orders will not be filled at 100%.
- Use type specific blood.
- Production of pre-pooled cryoprecipitate and random platelets is impacted.
- Please consider releasing crossmatched units 24 hours after procedure or after imminent need has passed.
- Please consider crossmatching the same unit to multiple patients.

**Client Action Required:**

- Notify appropriate staff and medical director as applicable.
- Please cooperate with hospital services as we triage each red blood cell order.
- Please encourage colleagues, friends and family to donate.

**Questions and Additional Information:**

Please contact [hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org](mailto:hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org) with any concerns. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time.