



To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations
Date: June 24, 2021
Re: Apheresis Platelets - Large Volume Delayed Sampling (LVDS)

Background:

The guidance issued by the FDA around bacterial risk strategies for platelets must be implemented before October 1, 2021. Carter BloodCare has implemented the large volume delayed sampling single-step strategy using the FDA approved, bioMerieux® BACT/ALERT system Tuesday, June 22, 2021. The associated pass-through cost is also effective Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

Impact to Clients:

- Apheresis platelets will be labeled with a final seven day expiration.
- The guidelines stipulate that we must hold these platelets for 48 hours prior to sampling and then incubate for an additional 12 hours before distribution to hospitals. You will begin to see these LVDS apheresis platelets after release on Friday, June 25, 2021.
- New ISBT product codes are required and have been provided.
- A pass-through cost of \$45 will be added to the apheresis platelet fee effective June 22, 2021 for LVDS apheresis platelets.
- Acrodose® platelet expiration, cost and bacterial detection strategy remains unchanged.
- Rapid bacterial testing will be discontinued with the implementation of LVDS, as these products are unable to be extended past the seven day expiration date.
- Facilities on platelet rotations must return platelets at the time of rotation in order to receive credit for rotated platelets. Any platelet kept at the facility at the time of rotation will not be credited outside of specific inventory challenges.

Questions and Additional Information:

Please contact hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org with any concerns.