

**To:** Transfusion Services Managers  
**From:** Hospital Relations  
**Date:** October 6, 2021  
**Re:** Cold Stored Platelets Update and Tag

**Update:**

Carter BloodCare intends to pilot the cold stored platelet process with two hospital partners beginning on November 16, 2021. We are confident this pilot will help us be better prepared once we roll out the use of this new component to all hospitals. We will tentatively distribute cold stored platelets to all hospitals in January of 2022.

As you continue preparing for acceptance of this component, please see the tag that will be attached to each cold stored platelet.



**Background**

Carter BloodCare appreciates your diligence in preparing for the implementation and usage of cold stored platelets into your blood bank inventory. The introduction of this new product allows Carter BloodCare to meet the increased patient transfusion needs in the community while reducing the risk for product outdates.

We are enthusiastic about this opportunity; however, as good partners, we recognize the additional stress the surge in COVID-19 cases has on your resources. As such, we are postponing the implementation of cold stored platelets for an additional 45 days until at least November 16, 2021. We will monitor the situation and make updates accordingly.

**Client Action**

- All Carter BloodCare customers should be prepared to receive and utilize cold stored platelets
- Please continue to work on the following:

- Update laboratory and/or blood bank information systems to accept the ISBT product codes associated with cold-stored apheresis platelets.
- Review and update policies associated with platelet storage and indications for use. If your facility stores more than 1 platelet on-site, prepare policies for maintaining a dual inventory.
- Inform laboratory medical directors and clinicians of the anticipated new component and its indications for use. Additional information regarding the use of cold stored platelets is attached for medical director and clinician review.

### **Cold stored apheresis platelets**

- Store the apheresis platelet products at refrigerated temperatures (1-6°C).
- Store up to 14 days without agitation.
- Bacterial detection testing is not required.
- Platelets are approved for the treatment of actively bleeding patients through day 14 of storage or when conventional platelet products are unavailable or their use is not practical.
- Eligible for return/re-stock on scheduled rotation day(s).
- Product cost remains the same as the 7day room temperature apheresis platelets.