

**To:** Transfusion Services Managers  
**From:** Hospital Relations  
**Date:** July 21, 2022  
**Re:** Platelet Collections, Usage and Outdates

### **Background**

Donor collections tend to decrease during the summer months. This summer is no different. We have also experienced a decline in platelet usage; however, platelet orders remain at the same or higher levels. Regrettably, decreased usage combined with higher ordering quantities, results in this limited resource to be outdated and discarded. Please ensure clinicians at your facility understand that with decreased availability of apheresis platelets, a cold-stored platelet may be the only available choice to treat patients in need of platelet transfusions.

### **Impact to Clients**

- Platelet stock maintained on-site should be re-evaluated and reduced during this time.
- Cold-stored platelets will be substituted if there is an insistence to provide a specific quantity of platelets.
- Platelet rotation and standing orders could be postponed or discontinued until outdates are reduced.
- Carter BloodCare medical directors are available for consultation.

### **Client Action Required**

- **Reduce** platelet stock.
- **Be prepared to accept cold-stored platelets.**
- Notify appropriate staff and medical director as applicable. Implement a triage process to help manage the supply.
- Please cooperate with hospital services at Carter BloodCare as orders may be triaged.
- Please encourage family, friends and colleagues to donate blood. The following toolkit is available for your use to help drive awareness and blood donations.  
[Carter BloodCare Share the Need Toolkit](#)

### **Questions and Additional Information:**

We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding. Please contact [hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org](mailto:hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org) with any concerns. By working together we can safely sustain operations.