![Carter BloodCare]

To: Carter BloodCare Customers

From: Hospital Relations

Date: December 13, 2022

Re: Critical BioFlex Quad Blood Bag Shortage

Background
As previously communicated, a critical local and nationwide blood bag shortage has caused Carter BloodCare to find alternative solutions to minimize the impact to your current workflow and transfusion practices. One of these mitigation steps included validating an alternative whole blood bag collection kit. Although this collection kit does allow for the continuation of ADSOL® 42-day expiration red cells and normal frozen products, it does <u>not</u> allow for the manufacturing of whole blood derived platelets.

Therefore, due to circumstances outside of our control and manufacturer limitations, we anticipate exhausting the quad bag blood collection kits this week. We will be unable to produce whole blood derived platelets and associated pooled platelet products (Acrodose™ platelets.) Carter BloodCare will attempt to increase the number of single donor apheresis platelets during this time to offset the need for the whole blood derived platelets. Unfortunately, we are not the only blood center affected by this blood bag shortage; it is a national problem. Most other blood centers are facing this same challenge which limits our ability to resource share. Considering this, we are requesting you to prepare for the following potential significant changes:

Impact to Hospital Customers and Patients
-   Prepare for limited whole blood derived platelets and Acrodose™ platelet inventory.

-   Plan to receive apheresis platelets as a substitute to whole blood derived platelet products, when available.

-   Please notify appropriate administration and patient care teams.

-   Platelets prepared from whole blood will resume once blood collection kit availability allows.

-   Please encourage family, friends, and colleagues to donate platelets at one of the Carter BloodCare Donor Centers.

Questions and Additional Information:
Please contact hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org with any concerns.

Carter BloodCare ▪ Hospital Relations ▪ 2205 Highway 121 ▪ Bedford, Texas 76021
hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org
Indebted for your trust, we promise to handle it with care.