

America's Blood Centers Professional Institute (API): More Than a Portal

Issue #4
February 3, 2017



The API is proud to announce the launch of [Introduction to the Blood Banking Industry](#), the newest online course available through the API learning portal. This course provides a solid foundation for anyone new to the blood banking industry, including new hires at blood centers, board members, industry partners, external hospital customers, etc.

The API online learning portal—which launched just last fall—now boasts over 60 courses, available 24/7. Many courses also offer Professional Acknowledgment for Continuing Education (P.A.C.E.) credits. There are courses available in leadership development training, regulatory and compliance, customer service, information technology security, and foundational blood banking programs—with more being added throughout the year.

These online courses and webinars are all available to ABC members through the [ABC member site](#), and to non-members through our [ABC public site](#). Members can register for online training at no cost or at steeply discounted rates. To access the API learning portal, click [here](#). ADRP subscribers who are not ABC member center employees also have access to some of these webinars and courses at a discounted cost.

But the API is so much more than what is available through the online learning portal. The API supports our member centers by providing educational opportunities at the ABC Annual Meeting, Summer Meeting, and workshops—

many of which offer additional continuing education credits, including Continuing Medical Education (CME), Human Resources Certification Institute (HRCI), and Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits. The API also helps support the ADRP Annual Conference and Expo, which provides industry-leading education in the areas of recruitment, collections, communications, and marketing for U.S. and international audiences. Through the API, ABC members also have the opportunity to

"This course gave me many ideas on how to work with the team in my department as well as working with other teams outside my department."
— Member feedback on a leadership course

sign up for ABC "Forums," email distribution lists with large groups of individuals in specific disciplines who want to receive the latest information from ABC and participate in special conference calls within their specific areas (e.g., quality, communications, human resources, technical/laboratory, etc.). And lastly, but not least, the API supports our members' exchange of knowledge by providing [listservs](#), the members' go-to-place for networking with peers in the ABC blood banking community.

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OUR SPACE

ABC President Susan Rossmann, MD, PhD

Getting Ahead of the Game

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not have any blood donors, much less millions of them. But ABC does. Advocacy is a key value of ABC, an activity highly prized by our members. One reason for an association to exist is that members share common goals in approaching the rule-makers and budget-makers, especially in a field as regulated as blood banking. But there are many types of advocacy, with different time horizons and probabilities of success. We have an opportunity now to work on “preventive advocacy”- that is, doing something ourselves to prevent or inform future regulations.

The FDA is, of course, interested in donor safety, and especially now in donor hemoglobin. This is mainly about donor safety, but also to ensure a minimum hemoglobin content (and hence oxygen-carrying capacity) in a bag of red cells. It is now clear that the standard pre-donation hemoglobin does not detect depleted iron stores in our donors. This occurs in first-time donors, but most often in those who donate intensively. Our frequent donor programs are excellent in many ways, but may have the unintended consequence of leaving some repeat donors with low iron stores.

Is this important? Is this dangerous for donors? The evidence is not clear. The Retrovirus Epidemiology Donor Studies (REDS) studies documented iron depletion in many donors and did not seek evidence of harm to those with low levels. In other clinical contexts, NOT dealing with otherwise healthy donors, there have been suggestions of neurocognitive issues, restless leg syndrome, fatigue, and anemia in those with low iron stores. Low iron stores may be especially common in the teenage years.

The FDA is not waiting indefinitely for more studies. At the Blood Products Advisory Committee meeting in November 2016, the Committee was asked to comment on various strategies for mitigation of the low iron risk, including measurement of iron stores, provision of education and/or iron replacement medication, and lengthening the interdonation interval. The Committee was essentially unanimous in favor of taking action. So, the FDA is considering regulatory action. We are not sure of the time frame for the FDA, but if we act now, we may prevent guidance that we don't like.

The studies to date are on a fairly small scale. We need better operational data, from blood centers of all sizes, to be able to offer strategies that work in the real world. As we work together and gather real world information, we will be able to see what is best for our donors and for us. It will not be simple, and will involve costs—both direct and in loss of donations. Nevertheless, it is incumbent upon us to do this BEFORE others feel the need to impose regulation. In this, we can be our own best advocates. ♦



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ABC is an association of not-for-profit, independent community blood centers that helps its members provide excellence in transfusion medicine and related health services. ABC provides leadership in donor advocacy, education, national policy, quality, and safety; and in finding efficiencies for the benefit of donors, patients, and healthcare facilities by encouraging collaboration among blood organizations and by acting as a forum for sharing information and best practices.

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INSIDE ABC

The programs and services described in the Inside ABC section are available to ABC member blood centers and their staff only, unless otherwise specified.

ABC Board of Directors Retreat Reaffirms Mission



The ABC Board of Directors, joined by ABC committee chairs, gathered in Nashville, Tenn., last week for its annual strategic retreat. Led by Joseph M. Ryan, visiting professor of Management at Vanderbilt University and an expert in business strategy and change management, the Board assumed the task of developing a strategic vision for ABC in the midst of industry transformation that would create an even more robust member value proposition. The Board reaffirmed the need for continued action in the fields of data and advocacy, stressing a sense of urgency regarding results. Discussions in these and other areas will continue throughout the coming months, including

at the members meeting during the ABC Annual Meeting this March. During the retreat, the Board also approved the slate of nominees for the FY18 Board of Directors, with additional information coming to the membership in this area in next week's *ABC Newsletter*.

ABC's Got Talent Season II's First Contestant



ABC's Got Talent Season II is excited to announce our first contestant—FABC Board Chair and CEO of Central Jersey Blood Center Pascal George. Watch the video and vote for Mr. George [here!](#)

ABC's Got Talent Season II is a fundraiser for the Foundation for America's Blood Centers (FABC). Season I took place in 2015 and raised over \$30,000 through the fundraising of 12 contestants and their talents. The money raised was used to help fund educational opportunities through the America's Blood Centers Professional Institute and scholarships for ABC member center employees to attend ABC meetings and workshops.

The FABC still needs more contestants for Season II! To participate, simply send a video of your talent that is no less than five minutes long to [Jodi Zand](#). Contestant videos will be linked to a fundraising page which

(continued on page 4)



INSIDE ABC (continued from page 3)

contestants can share with their friends, family members, and colleagues. Votes are counted in the form of donations to the FABC. The five contestants who have raised the most donations will perform live in Washington D.C. at the ABC Annual Meeting on Monday, March 27. The winner of the live contest will receive a grand prize yet to be determined.

ABC's Got Talent Season II is open to all ABC Member blood center employees, industry partners, volunteers, ADRP subscribers, and any family members or friends.

Online voting will close on Monday, March 6 to determine who will be performing live at the meeting. Videos should be submitted no later than February 17 to ensure there is enough time to obtain votes.

Here is a [clip of Emily Shenk De-May](#), the 2015 winner, performing her heartfelt rendition of "God Bless America."

Last Chance for Committee Nominations

There is still time to nominate committee volunteers! The last day to nominate someone is Tuesday, February 7. Our association is made stronger by the sharing of knowledge from our members. The volunteers that make up our committees help foster this exchange of ideas and wealth of knowledge. On March 31, 2017, all current committee memberships will expire. We strongly encourage all Member Voting Representatives and blood center staff members to review the listing of committees and their charters/charges (this information is located within this [survey](#)) to determine interest in serving on a particular committee. Anyone can volunteer or nominate another person to be a committee member. We have some resources that may help guide you in nominating a candidate: [Our Confidentiality & Conflict of Interest Policy](#); and the [ABC Committee Overview FY 18-19](#).

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to helping ABC achieve excellence.

Deadline Approaching for Awards of Excellence Nominations

You still have time to nominate someone for the *Awards of Excellence*! The deadline is fast approaching, however. Nominations are due no later than Monday, February 6. A ceremony, along with a strolling dinner and cocktails, for the award winners will take place on Monday, March 27, 2017, during the Washington D.C.-based ABC Annual Meeting at the Ritz Carlton in Pentagon City.

Nomination forms can be found [here](#). Once the nominations have all been submitted, an independent committee will review and select the winners in each category. Winners will be announced the week of February 13.

The event registration fee is included in the meeting registration fee for ABC members and sponsors. Award winners will receive two complimentary tickets to the event. The nominating blood center is encouraged to provide transportation and lodging costs for the winner. Please email [Jodi Zand](#) with any questions. 📌

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

ABC SMT Journal Club

Webinar

Monday, March 13

1 to 2 p.m. EST

Details coming soon!



MORE THAN A PORTAL (continued from page 1)

Take advantage of all that America's Blood Centers Professional Institute provides. Your journey begins by accessing the [API Learning Portal](#) to see what offerings are available, and signing up for Forums and listservs under the "[Learning Communities](#)" section of the member site. Carry on that journey by attending ABC meetings and workshops, reading the *ABC Newsletter* and utilizing the Blood Bulletin. The API is here to help our member centers further their success as a workforce and as organizations who provide a lifesaving service to their communities. Contact [Rachelle Fondaw](#) with any questions or comments. ♦

ABC Webinar

"9 Ways to Energize, Empower and Engage Your Employees"

February 7, 2017

2 p.m. EST

Join us for this webinar on how to energize, empower, and engage employees and their individual strengths to maximize both the individual's and an organization's success. The webinar is February 7, 2017, at 2 p.m. EST and will be presented by Gary Markle, executive coach and founder of consulting firm Energage. Register for the webinar [here](#).

RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Transfusion of blood stored for more than 35 days resulted in more extravascular hemolysis than blood stored for shorter periods. In a nearly two year randomized study of 60 healthy adult volunteers, 52 volunteers were broken up into groups and received blood stored from one to six weeks. Non-transferrin bound iron and extravascular hemolysis after transfusion progressively increased with increasing storage time. Decreases in post-transfusion hematocrit, and an increase in serum ferritin were also found. Blood storage should follow many other European nations' limits of 35 days, the authors concluded.

Citation: Rapido F., Brittenham G.M., Bandyopadhyay S., *et al.* Prolonged red cell storage before transfusion increases extravascular hemolysis. *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*. December 12, 2016. DOI: 10.1172/JCI90837. ♦

BRIEFLY NOTED

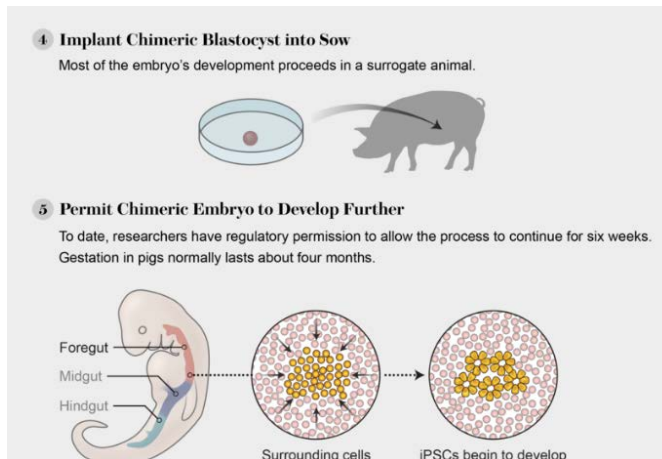
Driverless cars could impact the U.S. blood supply and solid organ transplant community. In a new article on self-driving autonomous vehicles, the authors noted that one of the main purposes for driverless cars is to increase roadway safety. The influence of such roadway safety would, in theory, help decrease the number of roadway collisions which could lower the need for blood and lessen the number of solid organs available for transplantation. The authors noted one in five solid organ donations come from roadway fatalities.

Citation: Gehrie E.A. and Booth G.S. The Impact of Driverless Cars on the U.S. Blood Supply. *Transfusion and Apheresis Science*. In Press Accepted Manuscript. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.transci.2017.01.002>.

(continued on page 6)



BRIEFLY NOTED (continued from page 5)



A new infographic visually explains how scientists developed human cells in a pig embryo. Researchers at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, a non-profit research institute in San Diego, Calif., recently reported their success in growing human cells for four months within a pig embryo. While their findings were labeled a relative success, they also highlighted that much more research needs to be done before developing a whole human organ in an animal. (Source: *Scientific American*, [How to Grow Human Organs in a Pig](#). January 26, 2017)

The World Federation of Hemophilia will present the results of their Bleeding Disorders Registry pilot program. The program was piloted in 31 countries, until December 2016. The results of the program were presented in poster format at the 10th Annual European Association for Haemophilia and Allied Disorders (EAHAD) Congress in Paris this week. If successful, the pilot program will be extended to 50 nations in 2017. The registry is gathering data on more than 15,000 patients with bleeding disorders and their clinical care for research and advocacy purposes. (Source: *Hemophilia World*, [The World Bleeding Disorders Registry - final stages of the pilot program](#). December 2016)

Organ donations grew by 20 percent in the last five years, noted the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). More than 33,600 organs were transplanted in the U.S. in 2016, up from 28,000 in 2012. UNOS attributed the growth in large part due to the number of deceased donors, which rose 9.2 percent from 2015 to 2016 and made up approximately 82 percent of all transplants. The remaining 18 percent were transplants from living donors. A number of the deceased donors had characteristics that were previously considered reasons for deferral, e.g. those who donated after circulatory death. (Source: *UNOS*, [U.S. organ transplants, deceased donors set record in 2016](#). January 9, 2017)

Safer transfusions during anti-CD38 therapy. Investigators from ABC member, BloodCenter of Wisconsin, describe the relative merits of several strategies for providing compatible red blood cells to patients being treated with anti-CD38 therapies, like daratumumab, that interfere with serologic compatibility testing. Genotyping was found to be more accurate than classic phenotyping methods.

Citation: Anani W.Q., Marchan M.G., Bensing K.M., *et al.* Practical approaches and costs for provisioning safe transfusions during anti-CD38 therapy. *Transfusion*. February 1, 2017. DOI: 10.1111/trf.14021.

Sensitivity and specificity of billing records to track receipt of red blood cells (RBCs) studied. In an effort to determine a method to appropriately monitor how many RBC transfusions are given, researchers used billing and electronic medical records of patients who had surgery for hip fractures at 53 community hospitals. The hospitals were mid-size, non-academic, community, acute care hospitals and the sensitivity to detect transfusion varied greatly across the hospitals (mean 71.6 percent). Specificity was higher at 92.6 percent. The authors noted that because of the high specificity, researchers could use billing records to measure transfusion rates; however, they should consider “excluding hospitals with low transfusion rates that are indicative of non- or under-reporting from claims-based analyses of transfusion rates.”

Citation: Howard D. H., Karc A., and Roback J. D. The accuracy of claims data for measuring transfusion rates. *Transfusion Medicine*. September 22, 2016. DOI: 10.1111/tme.12358.

(continued on page 7)



BRIEFLY NOTED (continued from page 6)

Transfusion-transmitted bacterial infection (TTBI) could be four times more common with platelet concentrates (PC) stored in platelet additive solutions (PAS) than those stored in plasma. In a retrospective study of 11 years (2003 to 2014) of data from the Netherlands, researchers found 14 cases of TTBI with 57.1 percent (n=8) of the recipients having received PCs stored in PAS, while only 22.3 percent of the PCs in plasma. The authors recognize as a limitation, that PCs in plasma vs. PAS were produced at different locations and differences by site might contribute the observations.

Citation: Krueger A.L., Middelburg R.A., Kerkhoffs J.L.H., *et al.* Storage medium of platelet transfusions and the risk of transfusion-transmitted bacterial infections. *Transfusion*. January 31, 2017. DOI: 10.1111/trf.13969. ♦

RECENT REVIEWS

Using a platelet (PLT) transfusion threshold of greater than 10,000/ μ L was not associated with less bleeding. In a clinical evidence synopsis from authors looking for a way to minimize bleeding in thrombocytopenic patients with hematological malignancy, maintaining a higher PLT count threshold in prophylactic transfusions was not associated with less bleeding than the current standard ($\leq 10 \times 10^9/L$), but it was associated with fewer transfusions. Few high quality studies were available for review and confidence intervals were therefore wide. Multiple secondary endpoints were also not affected.

Citation: Estcourt L.J., Stanworth S.J., and Murphy M.F. Different Platelet Count Thresholds to Guide Use of Prophylactic Platelet Transfusions for Patients With Hematological Disorders After Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy or Stem Cell Transplantation. *JAMA Oncology*. August 2016. DOI: 10.1001/jamaoncol.2016.2466. ♦

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Brazil ordered 11.5 million yellow fever vaccine doses. Of the 72 confirmed cases of yellow fever in Brazil, 40 of them were deaths, mostly in rural areas of the country. An additional 455 cases are under investigation. The World Health Organization (WHO) noted the disease is spreading, but that the infamous *Aedes aegypti* is not implicated, as of yet, in this spread. (Sources: *BBC News*, [Brazil orders 11.5 million yellow fever vaccine doses](#). January 26, 2017; [WHO disease outbreak news](#), January 27, 2017.



Avoiding a repeat of the Ebola outbreak. A consensus on what actions should be taken to avoid another public health emergency of international concern, like the Ebola outbreak, has been published. After selecting and compiling seven reports, researchers identified key areas of actions to ensure a better preparedness and more coordinated response to prevent deaths should another infectious disease outbreak with broad economic, social, and health crises occur. Some of the recommendations included: more adequate compliance with the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations, *not* overly restricting trade and travel to the areas affected; and reporting the outbreaks more speedily. (Source: *The British Medical Journal*, [Post-Ebola reforms: ample analysis, inadequate action](#). January 23, 2017.

More money to Florida to fight Zika. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced \$66.1 million in funding to health departments in U.S. territories and Florida to help combat the Zika virus. CMS noted Zika remains a serious health concern. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designated Florida and the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands as areas in need of emergency funding due to the active and/or local Zika virus transmission. The money will be spread out over the next three years, with the bulk of the money (\$60.6M) going to Puerto Rico. As of January 25, Puerto Rico had 34,577 confirmed local cases and Florida had 213, according to the CDC. (Sources: [CMS press release](#), January 8, 2017; CDC, [Case Counts in the U.S.](#), January 25, 2017) ♦



REGULATORY NEWS

President Trump signed an executive order this Monday requiring that for every new federal regulation implemented, two must be taken away. The executive order also stated the net incremental costs for Fiscal Year 2017, which is still in progress, should be “no greater than zero” for each agency. The order applies to all federal agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, National Institutes for Health etc. Its impact on rules and guidance from FDA is not yet known. (Source: [White House press release](#), January 30, 2017)

President Trump also signed an executive order to freeze the hiring of any new federal employees. It is unclear to what extent the hiring freeze applies to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), however. Within a [memo](#) from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), a number of exemptions were spelled out. Within those exemptions were employees that “meet public safety responsibilities.” It was unclear how that phrase will apply to FDA, National Institutes of Health, and other health-related agencies. ♦

PEOPLE



Former ABC CEO Jim MacPherson has been named Chairman of the Board of Directors of Global Healing, a Calif.-based non-profit organization dedicated to providing children and mothers with life-threatening conditions care from local, skilled healthcare professionals. MacPherson, a well-established strategic leader in the healthcare industry, is currently the President and CEO of the healthcare consulting firm MacPherson Strategies and has been in

the blood industry for more than 25 years. MacPherson became a Global Healing volunteer in 2011 and joined their Board of Directors in 2012. “I am honored to guide an organization as effective as Global Healing in helping under-resourced countries learn and sustain the latest techniques in patient care,” Mr. MacPherson said. He succeeds Amy Cook, who served as Board Chair for two years. “We are thrilled to have Jim lead Global Healing, as he offers extensive experience from both the clinical and business sides of healthcare,” said Cook. “Together, Jim MacPherson and John Donnelly, our organization's president, bring an established track record of helping to save the lives of millions. As a result, Global Healing is in an even stronger position to improve patient care for children and mothers in need.” (Source: [Global Healing press release](#), January 10, 2017). ♦

WORD IN WASHINGTON



The nomination of Rep. Tom Price (R-Ga.) to be Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services moves ahead. With the Senate Finance Democrats boycotting the confirmation of Rep. Price, MD, Republicans still pushed through his nomination to the full Senate on Wednesday. The Republican members of the Finance Committee suspended their rules that normally call for at least one member of the opposing party to be present for a cabinet confirmation. Democrats said Rep. Price made misleading if not false comments during his hearing regarding a sweetheart deal he may have received on a penny stock to Innate Immunotherapeutics, an Australian biotech company. (Source: *Kaiser Health News*, [Democrats Say Cabinet Choice Tom Price ‘Misled’ The Public](#). Here’s What We Know. February 1, 2017) ♦



ADRP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Join over 250 recruitment, collections and marketing leaders from over 20 countries for the ADRP Annual Conference.

- Attend education sessions covering donor recruitment, marketing, collections, leadership, strategy, integration, measurement, and new ideas that you can implement now.
- Visit the exhibits to see the latest technology.
- Learn from your industry peers in breakout sessions and networking events.

[click here to learn more or register](#)



"The 2016 ADRP Conference was a perfect blend of Recruitment & Collections content. To hear leaders in our industry from around the world share best practices was priceless.

—Pamela B. Rascon, Director, Community Resources, Sheppard Community Blood Center, GA

May 1-3, 2017
Chicago, Illinois

Subscribers Registration: \$550

(Includes Breakfast and Lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday)

Hotel Rate for ADRP: \$199/night

Chicago Hilton International

720 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60605, USA
Phone: 1.312.922.4400



adrp.org/annual-conference

Send your talent-filled videos to [Jodi Zand](#) to enter into the ABC's Got Talent Season II!

**ABC's
Got Talent**

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Season II Is Coming

MARCH 27, 2017

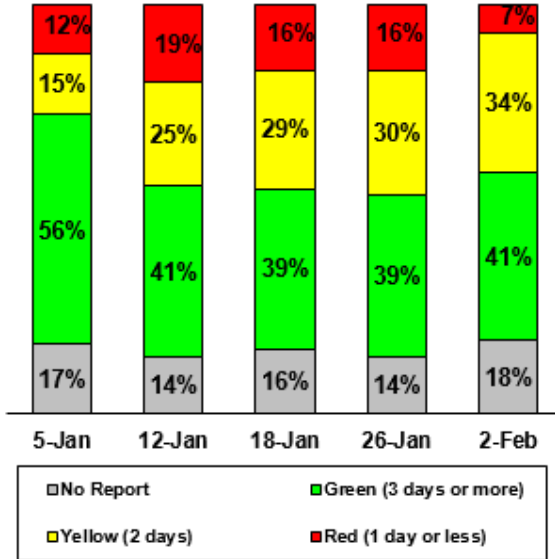
**Start Practicing & Stay
Tuned for Details!**

America's Blood Centers
It's About Life.

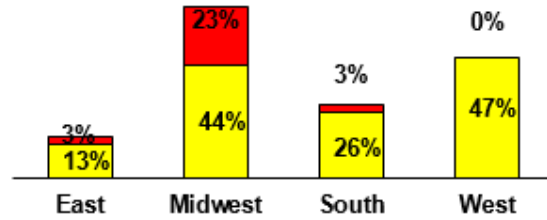


STOPLIGHT®: Status of the ABC Blood Supply

Total ABC Red Cell Inventory



Percent of Regional Inventory at 2 Days Supply or Less, February 2, 2017



Percent of Total ABC Blood Supply Contributed by Each Region
East: 20%; Midwest: 25%; South: 24%; West: 31%

Daily updates are available at:
www.AmericasBlood.org



AMERICA'S BLOOD CENTERS

55th ANNUAL MEETING



March 24-28, 2017 – Washington, DC

"The 2017 ABC Annual Meeting in Washington, DC is the premier place for industry leaders to experience peer-to-peer collaboration and networking, exclusive educational events and the opportunity to be an advocate for your blood center on Capitol Hill."
– Christine Zambricki, Chief Executive Officer, America's Blood Centers

Meeting Schedule

<p>Friday, March 24 International Blood Safety Forum</p> <p>Saturday, March 25 Business Forum ABC Board Meeting</p> <p>Sunday, March 26 ABC Members Meeting SMT Forum & Celso Bianco Lectureship FABC Reception</p> <p>Hotel Information Ritz-Carlton (Pentagon City) Hotel room rate: \$249 + tax Reserve hotel by March 3</p>	<p>Monday, March 27 Blood Center Leadership Forum 20th Annual Awards of Excellence ABC's Got Talent Season II</p> <p>Tuesday, March 28 Advocacy Forum Capitol Hill Visits</p>
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Future Leader Scholarship Program (Funded by FABC)
Details available upon registration.

Registration Fees (Member/Non-member)
Annual Meeting: \$975 / \$1,605
International Blood Safety Forum (Friday only): \$275 / \$275
International Blood Safety Forum & Business Forum (Fri & Sat only): \$410 / \$410
Business Forum through Advocacy Forum (Sat through Tue): \$760 / \$1,330
Registration opens early December. For questions, contact [Lori Beaston](#).

Sponsorship Opportunities
For questions or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, contact [Jodi Zand](#).



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MEMBER NEWS



The 17th Annual Rock & Roll Up Your Sleeve Blood and Marrow Drive. The Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC), local radio station 104.9 WXXR, and IBEW Local Union 364 joined forces to host the 17th Annual Rock & Roll Up Your Sleeve Blood and Marrow Drive on January 28. With 89 units collected, the event was a success! WXXR broadcasted live from the event and donors received cool t-shirts, lots of prizes, as well as coupons for a free pizza from local Papa Johns and a free cone or pie from McDonald's. Since its inception, nearly 2,200 units of blood have been collected at this event. "Because of the efforts of WXXR and our sponsors, thousands of patients have received lifesaving

transfusions," said Jennifer Bowman, RRVBC spokesperson. The Rock River Valley Blood Center serves as a centralized, community blood center and is the only provider of blood products and services to many local-area hospitals. (Source: RRVBC press office) ♦

GLOBAL NEWS



Three finalists were picked for the World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General position, STAT News reported. The WHO executive board voted for Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, 51, of Ethiopia; Dr. Sania Nishtar, 53, of Pakistan; and Dr. David Nabarro, 67, of Britain as the three finalists to replace Dr. Margaret Chan, whose second term of office ends June 30. Their voting tallies were in that order, sources told STAT. The three candidates will now head for a final vote from the World Health Assembly in

May and the winner will take office July 1, 2017. (Source: *STAT News*, [World Health Organization names nominees to lead global agency](#). January 25, 2017)

The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) officially launched. The CEPI is a coalition consisting of five partners: the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Economic Forum, the governments of Norway and India, and the Wellcome Trust, with the mission to develop vaccines before an epidemic occurs. With \$540 million in funding, the Oslo-based coalition announced at the World Economic Forum in Davos last week that they have officially launched. CEPI officials said they are focusing on three diseases: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Lassa fever, and Nipah. (Source: [CEPI press release](#), January 18, 2017) ♦



ADRP Seeks Award Nominations

Recognize a donor recruitment peer or sponsor for their outstanding achievements and create buzz you can brag about. Each year, ADRP honors individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service, accomplishments or leadership in blood banking. The deadline for nominations is Friday, February 10, 2017.

In addition to a complimentary conference registration, winners receive a commemorative award and recognition in the ADRP newsletter, *The Drop*, as well as on the ADRP website. Click [here for more information](#). ♦



CALENDAR

2017

Feb. 8-9. **FDA Public Workshop: Identification and Characterization of the Infectious Disease Risks of Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Products, College Park, Md.** For more information, click [here](#).

Feb. 13-14. **AABB U.S. Hemovigilance Symposium, Atlanta, Ga.** [Click to register](#) and for more information.

February 13-15. **Pharma Conference: 13th Annual FDA and the Changing Paradigm for HCT/P Regulation, Alexandria, Va.** For more information, click [here](#).

Mar. 2-3. **[IPFA 2nd Asia Workshop on Plasma Quality and Supply](#), Yogyakarta, Indonesia.** To register for the workshop, click [here](#).

Mar. 24-28. **Annual Meeting, America's Blood Centers, Washington, D.C.** Contact: ABC Meetings Dept. Phone: (202) 654-2901; e-mail: meetings@americasblood.org.

Mar. 25. **Board Meeting, America's Blood Centers, Washington, D.C.** Contact: ABC Meetings Dept. Phone: (202) 654-2901; e-mail: meetings@americasblood.org.

April 6. **FDA Public Workshop: Emerging Tick-Borne Diseases and Blood Safety, Bethesda, Md.** For more information, click [here](#).

Apr. 18-19. **Heart of America Association of Blood Banks (HAABB) 50th Annual Spring Meeting, Kansas City, MO.** For more information and to register, go to <http://www.haabb.org>.

May 1-3. **ADRP 2017 Annual Conference, Chicago, Ill.** More information is available on the [website](#).

May 16-17. **[IPFA/PEI 24th International Workshop on "Surveillance and Screening of Blood-borne Pathogens"](#), Zagreb, Croatia.** To register, click [here](#).

May 17-19. **Cellular Therapies and Transfusion Medicine in Trauma and Critical Care-Looking Towards the Future, San Francisco, Calif.** Presented by Blood Systems, Blood Systems Research Institute, and the University of California San Francisco. For more information, or to register, click [here](#).

June 6-8. **Technical & Quality Workshops, America's Blood Centers, Omaha, Neb.** Contact: ABC Meetings Dept. Phone: (202) 654-2901; e-mail: meetings@americasblood.org.

June 17-21. **27th Regional Congress of the ISBT, Copenhagen, Denmark.** Click [here](#) to register for the event.

Aug. 1-4. **Summer Meeting, MD Workshop & Golf Tournament, America's Blood Centers, Providence, R.I.** Contact: ABC Meetings Dept. Phone: (202) 654-2901; e-mail: meetings@americasblood.org.

Aug. 4. **Board Meeting, America's Blood Centers, Providence, R.I.** Contact: ABC Meetings Dept. Phone: (202) 654-2901; e-mail: meetings@americasblood.org.

Sept. 11-12. **[IPFA/BCA 3rd Global Symposium on The Future for Blood and Plasma Donations](#), Atlanta, Ga.** [Registration is now open](#).

Nov. 8-10. **10th World Federation of Hemophilia Global Forum, Montreal, Canada** For more information and to register, click [here](#). ♦



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified advertisements, including notices of positions available and wanted, are published free of charge for a maximum of three weeks per position per calendar year for ABC institutional members. There are charges for non-members: \$139 per placement for ABC Newsletter subscribers and \$279 for non-subscribers. A six (6) percent processing fee will be applied to all credit card payments. Notices ordinarily are limited to 150 words. To place an ad, contact Leslie Maundy at the ABC office. Phone: (202) 654-2917; fax: (202) 393-1282; e-mail: lmaundy@americasblood.org.

POSITIONS

Director of Technical Services. Manages laboratory employees in testing and preparation of blood products and manages Hospital Services' employees for distribution of products. Supervises Quality Assurance functions to ensure accurate and reliable work; enforces Safety policies; and encourages and trains according to cGMPs. Oversees Technical Services' compliance with the FDA, AABB and state regulations for blood centers. Promotes positive customer relations in an effort to achieve customer satisfaction and repeat business. Assists other Senior Management Team members in carrying out Shepard's mission and goals. Qualifications: Minimum of associates degree in a biological science; Medical Technology or Clinical Laboratory Science certification awarded by the American Society of Clinical Pathology or equivalent; minimum of an associate's degree in a Biological Science, Medical Technology or Clinical Laboratory Science certification awarded by the American Society of Clinical Pathology or equivalent. At least five (5) years progressive experience in management, SOP writing and FDA compliance. Experience in hospital transfusion medicine/blood bank. Please forward cover letter, download Shepard's Application located at www.shepeardblood.org and resume to: sjohnston@shepeardblood.org. EEO for individuals with Disabilities & Protected Veterans.

Director of Mobile Recruitment. The Director of Mobile Recruitment is the operations leader for the mobile recruitment department. This position is responsible for the strategic development of mobile collections with an emphasis on continuous process improvement, oversees all daily operations, responsible for achieving donor collection goals, responsible for all operational activities in field recruitment, and responsible for an annual budget of up to \$3M. This individual must be an effective leader of change, constantly seeking opportunities to recognize best practices. Bachelor's degree or seven years' experience in blood center operations, masters' degree plus, minimum of five years' experience in management with direct responsibility for staff, departmental budget and process improvement, and a minimum of five years sales management experience. We are an EEO/Affirmative Action employer. Carter BloodCare (CBC) provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants and will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an employee's or applicant's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, genetic, and veteran or disability status. CBC is a Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer. Please

apply online at: www.carterbloodcare.org. We maintain a drug-free workplace and perform pre-employment substance abuse testing.

Reference Laboratory Supervisor (Full Time). Blood Bank of Hawaii is seeking a successful leader to oversee and coordinate all reference lab work and product quality control testing services. We are a nonprofit, community-based organization that provides blood components and clinical/technical services to hospitals, physicians and patients throughout Hawaii. The ideal candidate will encompass a high standard for accuracy, follow-up and follow-through, and thrive in an environment where problem solving is a necessity. Will work with team members ensuring compliance at all times, and will also be responsible for the administrative/supervisory functions offering support and guidance to personnel. The incumbent will also serve as a technical resource to hospitals and other departments outside their primary responsibility. If you are up for the challenge, we want to talk to you! Minimum qualifications include baccalaureate degree in Medical Technology or in a related science from an accredited college or university; Certified Medical Technologist by ASCP; eligible for Clinical Laboratory Technologist license by the Department of Health of the State of Hawaii. Previous work experience as an MT in hematology and immunohematology is preferred; certification as a Specialist in Blood Banking (SBB) is highly desirable. Complete an online application by visiting www.BBH.org.

Chief Medical Officer. Traditional blood banking is at an exciting inflection point, needing to respond to a number of local and national market changes. The San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is in a unique position to be one of the leaders of the blood industry into the future, by leveraging and extending its competencies to have even greater impact in our community's health. SDBB will continue our mission of providing high quality and blood and biological products on a local, regional and national scale while simultaneously integrating into local and national scientific and clinical communities to actively drive the future of healthcare through research. The San Diego Blood Bank is now searching for a Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to provide medical oversight of our opportunities in blood banking and in life science research and clinical trials, including the Precision Medicine Initiative. The CMO will help drive SDBB's efforts to position itself as a visionary leader in both its

(continued on page 14)

POSITIONS (continued from page 13)

traditional blood banking market as well as in emerging life science markets. Education: M.D. or D.O. degree, with subspecialty board certification in hematology or transfusion medicine preferred. Certifications/Licenses: Active, unrestricted California medical license. San Diego Blood Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EEO/Minority/Female/Disability/Vets. sandiegoblood-bank.applicantpro.com

Executive Director of Quality Assurance (Shreveport, LA). LifeShare Blood Centers is currently looking for an Executive Director of Quality Assurance, whose primary responsibility is to develop a system that ensures that policies and procedures regarding the manufacturing processes of the blood center operation are in compliance with standards and regulations governing the blood banking industry as well as providing leadership of the staff working in the quality department. The Executive Director will oversee the activities of the QACs, reviewing reports and trends to determine errors in procedure(s) or training. The ECQA implements and achieves the quality/compliance goals and objectives of the organization. B.S. in Medical Technology or related field required. Must be familiar with FDA regulations governing blood banking, AABB standards and must have significant work experience managing quality programs and procedures in a blood bank or hospital laboratory environment. To apply, please visit: www.lifeshare.org under the careers tab.

Director of Collections (Minnesota Division). (Reports to: Vice President Donor Services; Status: Full-Time, 1.0FTE, and Exempt; Benefits: Medical, Dental, Vision, 401K, Life Insurance, PTO and EST and more) Directs all blood collections operations for the Minnesota donor centers and mobile operations. Provides guidance and oversight to the team that embodies the Innovative Blood Resources (IBR) mission and values and promotes successful collections processes/outcomes. Ensures collections operations and mobiles are run in a manner that results in safe and compliant blood products and services that consistently delights donors and sponsors. Ensures a working environment for the Minnesota Collections leaders and team that is supportive and productive through recognition, feedback, coaching and development. Responsible for collections team, collections support functions and vans/mobiles drivers. Provides guidance to collections leadership in budget development, staffing models, performance reviews, goal development and goal development and achievement. Works collaboratively with the Manager of Donor Recruitment, Manager of CMC, Manager of Collections Quality and Director of Donor Services in Nebraska. To apply please go to our website with an updated resume.

Center Manager (Beaumont, Texas). LifeShare Blood Centers is currently seeking an individual to fill a key leadership position within our organization. The Center Manager is accountable for operational objectives and

will ensure strategic plan is met. The position tracks and trends key performance indicators, quality metrics and financials and takes appropriate action to ensure the business viability. Bachelor's degree in Applied Sciences or Business required with MBA preferred. Demonstrated success of execution of strategic objectives in challenging and highly regulated environment. Ten years of progressive managerial experience required with experience managing donor recruitment and donor services a plus. LifeShare has been a part of the community since 1942, providing local hospitals and our employees with great benefits. To apply, please visit: www.lifeshare.org under the careers tab.

Medical Technologist (Shreveport, LA). LifeShare Blood Centers is currently looking for a Medical Technologist in our Reference Lab. The Med Tech performs complex antibody workups and compatibility testing of donor and patient blood samples, recording observed results, making interpretations, completing reports and paperwork required to charge accounts for testing. The Med Tech performs special serological tests to define immunohematological problems and coordinates investigations with LifeShare's molecular testing laboratory and communicates findings with requesting facility to assist with the determination of appropriate transfusion therapy. Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology or related science field required. MT(ASCP) or MLS(ASCP) or equivalent national accrediting organization required. Current CLS licensure or license eligible. Two to three year's blood banking experience. To apply, please visit: www.lifeshare.org under the careers tab.

President/CEO. Central California Blood Center is a successful growth oriented, independent, not-for profit organization serving hospitals in the Central San Joaquin Valley in California seeking a President/CEO. The successful candidate will have demonstrated leadership experience and must possess exceptional strategic planning abilities coupled with strong interpersonal skills to maintain and cultivate supportive relationships within the regional health care sector and the community and beyond. This executive leadership position is accountable for operational objectives providing leadership and direction to the organization in alignment with Board of Directors to ensure strategic plan is met to execute our mission, vision and core values. Demonstrable success building teams to drive operational success in challenging and highly regulated environments required. Candidates ten years progressive managerial experience and baccalaureate degree required with an MHA, MBA a plus. EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled. Please submit resume with salary history to deller@donateblood.org or mail to Dean Eller, Central California Blood Center, 4343 W. Hernon, Fresno, CA, 93722. ♦