



ABC NEWSLETTER

CURRENT EVENTS AND TRENDS IN BLOOD SERVICES

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2023 #20

June 2, 2023

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Blood Community Submits Joint Comment to CMS Regarding 2024 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update Proposed Rule

America’s Blood Centers (ABC), the Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (AABB) and the American Red Cross submitted joint comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in response to the proposed rule titled “Medicare Program; FY 2024 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update, Hospice Conditions of Participation Updates, Hospice Quality Reporting Program Requirements, and Hospice Certifying Physician Provider Enrollment Requirements” (CMS-1787-P).

In the comments, the organizations “focus[ed] on the request for information (RFI) on hospice utilization. Collectively, our organizations represent the nation’s blood collection establishments, transfusion services, and transfusion medicine professionals.” The blood community expressed appreciation for the agency exploring removing barriers to help ensure access to palliative blood transfusions for Medicare beneficiaries under the hospice benefit and “applauded CMS for explicit recognition that the hospice benefit covers palliative blood transfusions.”

The comments urged that “Medicare’s payment policy must be revised to achieve increased access to palliative blood transfusions.” Specifically, the organizations stated that “[w]hile hospice organizations can give blood transfusions, very few provide this essential palliative care. The Medicare per diem payment amount is far too low to cover costly yet helpful palliative interventions, such as blood transfusions.” The comments described the complexity and resource-intense nature of the blood transfusion process, and the specialization required the professionals who provide expertise throughout the transfusion process. Additionally, the organizations noted the safety measures and monitoring needed to mitigate risk in the transfusion process. “Thus, the per diem payment is insufficient to cover the expenses associated with transfusions, which limits the ability of many hospice providers to furnish these services. As a result, Medicare beneficiaries who rely on blood transfusions may delay enrollment in hospice, leave hospice, or shuttle in and out of hospice, all of which contribute to reduced quality of care and increase in overall cost.”

The blood community concluded the comments by encouraging CMS to “improve Medicare beneficiaries’ access to end-of-life care by providing incremental, separate payments, leveraging the established blood product HCPCS code sets and

(continued on page 2)



Blood Community Submits Joint Comments to CMS (continued from page 1)

associated rates for palliative blood transfusions furnished under the Medicare hospice benefit.” Adding that “[t]ogether with continued education about the availability of blood transfusions under the hospice benefit, carving out payments for blood transfusions from the per-diem payment will remove a substantial barrier to care and improve end of life care for patients and their families.” The [full comments](#) are available on the ABC website along with an [archive](#) of all previous ABC letters and comments. This issue is also one of the priorities of the [2023 ABC Advocacy Agenda](#) and was [addressed](#) during ABC’s Blood Advocacy Week 2023. We will continue to provide updates on ABC’s advocacy efforts as they become available.

(Source: Blood Community Joint Hospice [Comments](#) to CMS, 5/30/23) ◆

NEJM Perspective Examines How to Ensure a Reliable Platelet Supply

Authors in the *New England Journal of Medicine* [published](#) a “Perspective” titled “Ensuring a Reliable Platelet Supply in the United States.” The piece calls attention to the “urgen[t] need to identify new approaches to increasing platelet availability if we are to meet routine demand, create dependable surge supply, and ensure capacity for rapid ramp-up in response to public health emergencies.” They describe the “mismatch between this growing platelet demand and reduced platelet collection suggests that the chronic platelet shortage could worsen in the next few years, a possibility that underscores the need for effective countermeasures.” While noting that surge capacity is “insufficient,” the authors also added that “The Covid-19 pandemic precipitated an acute shortage of blood for transfusions, raising deeper questions about planning for ensuring the availability of blood products in emergencies.” They call for the implementation of platelet technologies used worldwide in the U.S. “to address ongoing platelet shortages, accommodate surge requirements, and improve capacity for responding to public health emergencies.” The authors concluded the article by “recommend[ing] establishment of a public–private partnership that could develop an industry-wide solution to the increased need for platelets. The semiautomated and fully automated methods have not been submitted for FDA consideration. An alliance of public and private stakeholders working collaboratively could identify a clear pathway for obtaining FDA approval, followed by production and widespread clinical use of much-needed platelets.”

Citation: Riley, W., Cohn, C., Love, K., and McCullough, J. “[Ensuring a Reliable Platelet Supply in the United States](#).” *New England Journal of Medicine*. 2023. ◆



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ABC advocates for and advances policies that promote the role of independent blood centers in providing life-saving blood products and recognizes the continuous need for a safe and robust blood supply. ABC exists to advocate for laws and regulations recognizing the essential role that independent blood centers play in the health care system; promote partnerships, policies, and programs that increase awareness about the need for blood donation; and serve as a thought leader in the advancement of evidence-based medical and scientific solutions related to health and safety.

America’s Blood Centers

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RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Migration of Plasticizers in Blood Containers to Patients. A [study](#) in *Vox Sanguinis* explained that “[p]olyvinyl chloride (PVC) is a polymer widely used in the manufactur[ing] of medical devices, particularly in the field of labile blood products (LBPs) collection, preparation, and storage for transfusion.” The authors stated that “[b]ecause of its rigidity, PVC needs to be plasticized to obtain more flexible materials... However, these plasticizers are not covalently bound to PVC, resulting in their migration within blood products, that is, whole blood (WB), plasma, red blood cell (RBC) concentrate, and platelet concentrate (PC).” The article describes that “[c]urrently, di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) is the most common plasticizer used in transfusion medical devices. [It] has been classified as possibly carcinogenic to humans... [U]se of alternative plasticizers, such as diisononylcyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylate (DINCH) and di(2-ethylhexyl) terephthalate (DEHT), has been investigated as potential candidates for the DEHP replacement in transfusion medical devices.” The study notes that “[i]n the present investigation, [authors] aim to evaluate and compare the release of DEHP, DINCH and DEHT from the PVC in WB, plasma, PC, and RBCs during their respective storage conditions... [A]ll WB bags were in contact with their respective plasticizers for 24 hours before processing... They found that [t]he storage temperature seem[ed] to influence the migration of plasticizers... For plasma, an increase in the equivalent concentration of DEHP (+0.61 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dm}^2/\text{mL}$) and DINCH (+0.20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dm}^2/\text{mL}$) is noted between (Days) D1 and D2, followed by a concentration steady-state until D30... For DEHT, a constant equivalent concentration of $0.41 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{g}/\text{dm}^2/\text{mL}$ in plasma [was] observed during the first 30 days of storage... On D1, for all labile blood products, the migration of DEHP is in mean 5.0 and 8.5 times greater compared to DINCH and DEHT, respectively.” The study also discovered that “whatever the nature of the RBC preservative solution, the equivalent concentrations of DEHP have not been found statistically different at the end and throughout the storage of RBC ($p > 0.1$).” In cases of frequent transfusion, “DEHT and DINCH concentrations were reduced by 53.5 and 38.9 percent for patients with sickle cell disease and beta-thalassemia and by 87.3 and 75.4 percent for patients with thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura, respectively, compared to DEHP.” The authors concluded that “[t]hese reductions in plasticizer concentrations represent a significant improvement in transfusion safety.”

Citation: Thelliez, A., Sumian, C., Chazard, E., Reichenberg, S., Lecoer, M., Decaudin, B. [Migration of di\(2-ethylhexyl\) phthalate, diisononylcyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylate and di\(2-ethylhexyl\) terephthalate from transfusion medical devices in labile blood products: A comparative study.](#) *Vox Sang.* 2023.

Contributed by Richard Gammon, MD, Medical Director at OneBlood 💧

REGULATORY NEWS

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a [notice](#) in the *Federal Register* on June 1st titled “Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Product Establishments That Are Improperly Registered in the Electronic Human Cell and Tissue Establishment Registration System Due to Lack of Annual Registration Update; Action Dates.” The notice announced the agency’s “intention to begin inactivating the registration of establishments that manufacture human cells, tissues, or cellular or tissue-based products (HCT/Ps) that have not updated their registration during the annual update period, in accordance with FDA regulations, in the electronic human cell and tissue establishment registration system (eHCTERS). FDA regulations require establishments that manufacture certain HCT/Ps to update their establishment registration annually. These regulations also require establishments to amend their registration within 30 calendar days of certain changes.” According to the agency, the notice is “applicable August 30th.”

(Source: *Federal Register* [Notice](#), 6/1/23) 💧



America's Blood Centers®
It's About *Life.*

INSIDE ABC

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

Upcoming ADRP Webinar: “Celebrating the Donor — Donor Recognition That Matters!”

[Register](#) today for the Tuesday, June 13th ADRP: The Association for Blood Donor Professionals [webinar](#) titled “Celebrating the Donor — Donor Recognition That Matters!” This webinar will take place at 1 p.m. EDT and feature blood center professionals sharing programs and best practices that recognize the efforts of blood donors. Participants will also be able to join the conversation by sharing their ideas and experiences. The webinar is free for ADRP members. Non-members may register for \$25 and \$50 for industry partners. Please contact [us](#) with questions.

(Source: ADRP [Announcement](#), 5/24/23)

Registration Is Open for the ABC Summer Summit & MD Workshop

Mark your calendars for America’s Blood Centers (ABC) [Summer Summit and Medical Directors Workshop](#) in St. Louis, Mo. The meeting will take place August 1st-3rd. [Registration](#) is open and hotel [reservations](#) can be made at Live! by Loews (St. Louis). Attendees will hear updates on blood center operational, scientific, and medical issues, case studies, engaging discussions, and have networking opportunities to connect with peers and colleagues. A preliminary agenda is coming soon.

Register for the Next ADRP Masterclass: Change is Good — The Journey of Donor Eligibility

Registration is open for the next [ADRP Masterclass](#), “Change is Good — The Journey of Donor Eligibility,” taking place September 20th-21st. This is a virtual event held over two days featuring both blood center professionals and invited speakers. Join ADRP, as the masterclass will explore all aspects of eligibility changes. This includes community outreach and education, public relations, blood donor recruitment, staff training, member resources, community partnerships, and much more. Participants will hear case studies and best practices from those who have already implemented changes. ADRP encourages teams to register together to take advantage of the discounted rate and build on the momentum of post-conference collaboration. 💧

PEOPLE



Amanda Farrell recently became the president of the ADRP: The Association for Blood Donor Professionals Advisory Board. She is the senior director of Donor Recruitment at The Blood Connection where she is responsible for improving efficiency in the donor recruitment process and working on the blood center’s strategic partnerships. Ms. Farrell earned her B.S. in Human Development and B.A. in Psychology from Binghamton University. 💧



BRIEFLY NOTED

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has [announced](#) the next webinar in their **Public Health Webinar Series on Blood Disorders**. The webinar will take place on June 22nd from 2-3 p.m. EDT and is titled “Emerging Trends in Gene Therapy: Thalassemia as a Case Study.” The webinar will feature Stefano Rivella, PhD, professor of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Scientific Director of The Sickle Cell and Red Cell Disorders Curative Therapy Center, Sujit Sheth, MD, chief of the division of Hematology/Oncology and professor of Clinical Pediatrics at Weill Cornell Medicine, and Muin J. Khoury, MD, PhD, director of the Office of Genomics and Precision Public Health, and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at CDC. Objectives for the webinar include:

- “[d]escribe the efficacy and safety of gene therapy approaches for hemoglobin disorders based on results from current clinical trials;
- [d]escribe the differences between gene addition and gene editing in the approach to gene therapy for hemoglobin disorders; [and]
- [d]escribe how gene therapy may address unmet medical needs of people with thalassemia.”

(Source: CDC [Announcement](#), 5/17/23)

CDC recently [launched](#) a “new Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) through the Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics (CFA) to establish an outbreak response network for disease forecasting to support decision makers during public health emergencies.” According to the agency news release, “[t]he new program will support advanced development of modeling, forecasting tools, and outbreak analytics through three critical operations: innovation, integration, and implementation. Funding recipients will work alongside CFA to establish a national network to support jurisdiction decision makers before and during future public health emergencies. Additionally, the cooperative agreement will fund recipients to plan, prepare, and respond to future infectious disease outbreaks.”

(Source: CDC [News Release](#), 5/19/23)

Nominations are [open](#) for the Fresenius Kabi National Blood Donation Hall of Fame. The program is now celebrating its 25th anniversary and recognizes the commitment and dedication of extraordinary donors, volunteers and advocates helping to create awareness of the need for blood. All are invited to nominate a donor or volunteer who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment and passion for donating blood and/or encouraging blood donation. Nominations may be submitted via [email](#) through June 11th and should include:


- [d]onor name;
- blood center and location; and
- [a] description of the nominee that features details about the person’s commitment and dedication to donating blood, or being a volunteer, or how they are an advocate to create awareness on the need for blood.

(Source: Fresenius Kabi [Announcement](#), 5/16/23) 💧



MEMBER NEWS

Vitalant recently announced that data from the Vitalant Research Institute has been [published](#) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR) as part of a seroprevalence study on the "Estimates of SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence and Incidence of Primary SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Blood Donors, by COVID-19 Vaccination Status — United States, April 2021–September 2022." According to publication, "CDC, in collaboration with Vitalant, American Red Cross, Creative Testing Solutions, and Westat, established a nationwide cohort of 142,758 blood donors in July 2021; the cohort included persons who had donated blood two or more times in the preceding year." The researchers found that "[b]oth infection-induced and hybrid immunity increased during the study period. By the third quarter of 2022, approximately two thirds of persons aged ≥ 16 years had been infected with SARS-CoV-2 and one half of all persons had hybrid immunity. Compared with vaccine effectiveness against any infection and against severe disease or hospitalization, the effectiveness of hybrid immunity against these outcomes has been shown to be higher and wane more slowly (2). This increase in seroprevalence, including hybrid immunity, is likely contributing to lower rates of severe disease and death from COVID-19 in 2022–2023 than during the early pandemic." Additionally, they noted that "In this study, unvaccinated persons had higher rates of infection (as evidenced by N antibody seroconversion) than did vaccinated persons, indicating that vaccination provides some protection against infection. The differences in incidence could also be due to systematic differences between vaccinated and unvaccinated persons in terms of the prevalence of practicing prevention behaviors such as masking and physical distancing. The relative difference in infection rates narrowed during the most recent months, possibly because of waning of vaccine-induced protection against infection in the setting of increased time after vaccination or immune evasion by the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant." The study concluded that the "incidence of first-time SARS-CoV-2 infection was lower among persons who had received [a] COVID-19 vaccine than among unvaccinated persons and that infection-induced and hybrid immunity have increased but remain lowest in adults aged ≥ 65 years. These adults have consistently had a higher risk for severe disease compared with younger age groups, underscoring the importance of older adults staying up to date with recommended COVID-19 vaccination, including at least one bivalent dose."

Citation: Jones, J., Manrique, I.M., Stone, M., *et al.* "[Estimates of SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence and Incidence of Primary SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Blood Donors, by COVID-19 Vaccination Status — United States, April 2021–September 2022.](#)" *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2023. 

GLOBAL NEWS

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), Australia's regulatory body, has [approved](#) a "plasma pathway" to expand the pool of potential donors. According to Australian authorities in a news release, "the plasma pathway is the initial step to remove questions regarding sexual activity from the plasma donor questionnaire. When implemented, this will enable donation from cohorts who have been excluded from blood and plasma donation based on their sexual activity, including [sexually active gay and bisexual men]." The next step in the nation's regulatory process is for CSL Behring, the country's plasma fractionator, to submit an "[application] for or the plasma pathway to come into effect. States and Territories will then need to amend their respective questionnaires." The Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney MP added in the news release, "This decision by the TGA is a welcomed step in enabling more people to donate plasma, including gay and bisexual men. It is an important decision in providing life-saving plasma to people who need it and one based on the best of medical evidence...I am hopeful CSL Behring will come forward with an application to the TGA so that we can see this decision translated into a fairer plasma donation system as soon as possible." The TGA also explained that "[t]he existing deferral period remains in place for people who have had sexual activity with someone known to have a blood borne

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GLOBAL NEWS (continued from page 6)

virus. Changes to deferral periods for blood donation were not included in this application to the TGA.”

(Source: TGA [News Release](#), 5/30/23)

The World Health Organization (WHO) has [announced](#) the creation of a global network designed to combat infectious disease threats via pathogen genomics. A WHO news release stated that the “International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) will provide a platform to connect countries and regions, improving systems for collecting and analyzing samples, using these data to drive public health decision-making, and sharing that information more broadly...The IPSN, with a Secretariat hosted by the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, brings together experts worldwide at the cutting-edge of genomics and data analytics, from governments, philanthropic foundations, multilateral organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector. All share a common goal: to detect and respond to disease threats before they become epidemics and pandemics, and to optimize routine disease surveillance.” Pathogen genomics is the process of “analyz[ing] the genetic code of viruses, bacteria, and other disease-causing organisms to understand how infectious they are, how deadly they are, and how they spread. With this information, scientists and public health officials can identify and track diseases to prevent and respond to outbreaks as part of a broader disease surveillance system, and to develop treatments and vaccines.”

(Source: WHO [News Release](#), 5/20/23) ◆

COMPANY NEWS

Valneva has [submitted](#) a regulatory application for approval to Health Canada (the Canadian regulatory authority) for the company’s investigational chikungunya vaccine candidate. According to a company news release, the single-shot vaccine candidate is for use in individuals 18 years of age or older. Valneva submitted a biologics license application (BLA) to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration earlier this year. Data accompanying the approval applications come in the wake of “phase III trial data [reported] in March 2022, final lot-to-lot consistency results [reported] in May 2022, and positive twelve-month persistence data reported in December 2022. A clinical study of [vaccine candidate] in adolescents is ongoing in Brazil, for which Valneva reported enrollment and vaccination completion in February 2023.”

(Source: Valneva [News Release](#), 5/30/23)

Be The Match BioTherapies® and **Garuda Therapeutics** have [partnered](#) to develop blood stem cell-based cellular therapies. A news release from the companies explained that the collaboration aims to “advance Garuda’s continued development of HLA-matched hematopoietic stem cells, with the goal of greatly broadening the eligibility of patients and increasing access to blood and other cellular therapies in regenerative medicine.” Be The Match will “supply an extensive cell therapy infrastructure that provides Garuda with regulatory compliant starting material” as a result of the partnership.

(Source: Be The Match Biotherapies [News Release](#), 5/24/23) ◆

ABC Calendar of Events

ABC offers a variety of meetings, workshops and virtual opportunities for education and networking as well as participation in ABC business. The [calendar of events](#) includes annual and summer meetings, board meetings, workshops, and webinars, and details will be updated as confirmed. We look forward to your support and participation!



Upcoming ABC Webinars & Virtual Events – Don't Miss Out!

- **ADRP: The Association for Blood Donor Professionals Webinar: Celebrating the Donor — Donor Recognition That Matters** – June 13. [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).
- **ABC Scientific, Medical, and Technical Committee Journal Club Webinar** – Aug. 11. More information coming soon.
- **ADRP: The Association for Blood Donation Professionals Master Class: Change Is Good – The Journey of Donor Eligibility** – Sept. 20-21. [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).



CALENDAR

Note to subscribers: Submissions for a free listing in this calendar (published weekly) are welcome. Send information to newsletter@americasblood.org. (For a more detailed announcement in the weekly "Meetings" section of the newsletter, please include program information.)

2023

June 5-9. **U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Regulatory Education for Industry (REDI) Annual Conference 2023 (Virtual)**. [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

June 13-14. **FDA Science Forum (Virtual)**. Registration is [open](#). More information available [here](#).

June 17-21. **International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) Regional Congress, Gothenburg, Sweden**. More information available [here](#).

June 22. **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Public Health Webinar Series on Blood Disorders: Emerging Trends in Gene Therapy: Thalassemia as a Case Study**. [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

July 6-7. **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Advisory Committee on Blood and Tissue Safety and Availability (ACBTSA) (Virtual)**. More information available [here](#).

July 31. **Blood Centers of America (BCA) Medical Directors Meeting, St. Lois, Mo.** The meeting will be held from 9-5 pm at the Loews. Please contact [Stacy Conway](#) for more information.

Aug. 1-3. **ABC Medical Directors Workshop and Summer Summit, St. Louis, Mo.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

Aug. 11. **ABC Scientific, Medical, and Technical Committee Journal Club Webinar**. More information available soon.

Sept. 17-20. **American Association of Tissue Banks Annual Meeting, National Harbor, Md.** More information available [here](#).

Sept. 20-21. **ADRP: The Association for Blood Donation Professionals Masterclass: Change Is Good – The Journey of Donor Eligibility (Virtual)**. [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

Oct. 9-11. **Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed) The MedTech Conference, Anaheim, Calif.** More information available [here](#).

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CALENDAR (continued from page 8)

Oct. 14-17. **AABB Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tenn.** [Registration](#) is open. More information available [here](#).

Oct. 18-20. **American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), Long Beach, Calif.** More information available [here](#).

Nov. 18-21. **ISBT Regional Congress, Cape Town, South Africa.** More information available [here](#).

2024

Mar. 4-6. **ABC Annual Meeting, Arlington, Va.** More information available [here](#).

May 15-17. **2024 ADRP Annual Conference, St. Louis, Mo.** More information available [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 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, e-mail: newsletter@americasblood.org

POSITIONS

Director of Regulatory Affairs and Compliance – Biologics Processing and Manufacturing. The Blood Connection is seeking a Director of Regulatory Affairs – Biologics Process and Manufacturing – to provide regulatory guidance with a focus on completing licensure for blood products and processes. This position will serve as the primary contact with the FDA (CBER) regarding licensure of blood products. Additional responsibilities will include the creation and review of validation protocols and ensuring ongoing compliance for the organization. We offer an exceptional benefits package including a generous 401k match, 30 days PTO, company bonus, tuition reimbursement, cell phone stipend, and yearly increases. How to apply: [Director of Regulatory Affairs and Compliance – Biologics Processing and Manufacturing](#).

Divisional Manager of Donor Services. The Blood Connection is seeking a Divisional Manager of Donor Services for each of the following territories in Raleigh, NC, Rock Hill, SC, and North Charleston, SC. This position will oversee donor collection operations within the aforementioned divisional territory. This position provides leadership and discipline to direct reports, interviews and hires new staff, and ensures staff is appropriately trained. Additional responsibilities will include the conduction of audits to ensure departmental and organizational procedures, processes, and policies are followed. This role requires frequent travel to various fixed site centers and mobile collection drives. We offer an exceptional benefits package including a generous 401k match, 30 days PTO, company bonus, tuition reimbursement, cell phone stipend, and yearly increases. How to apply: [Divisional Manager of Donor Services](#).

Regional Director. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking a highly skilled leader with proven

management experience and a passion for making a difference. The Regional Director for Dunwoody, GA is responsible for overseeing daily operations of the region, is organized and decisive, and can motivate the team to reach daily and long-range collection goals. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position and to apply. <https://www.lifesouth.org/work-at-lifesouth/>

Immunohematology Reference Lab Technologist. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking individuals who want the opportunity to learn and continue to improve their skills. The Technologists working at our Immunohematology Reference Laboratory (IRL) in Atlanta, GA resolve complex immunohematology and compatibility problems to provide the safest donor blood for the patients in our community. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position and to apply. <https://www.lifesouth.org/work-at-lifesouth/>

Supervisor, Immunohematology Reference Laboratory. Outstanding opportunity for qualified individuals! This position reports to the Laboratory Services Manager and Director of Laboratory Services. This position also works closely with the New York Blood Center Enterprise IRL laboratories. Responsible for the supervision of Immunohematology Reference Laboratory (IRL) staff, daily workload, and compliance with applicable standards of the AABB, RI State, NY State and CLIA regulations. This position requires advanced technical

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POSITIONS (continued from page 9)

knowledge of immunohematology techniques and knowledge of proper handling of biological materials and hazardous chemicals. Requires: BS in Medical Technology. Certified Specialist in Blood Banking (SBB.) At least six years' experience at the bench level or higher post baccalaureate degree and national certification. Exceptional compensation and benefit package. For more information and online application, please go to: www.ribc.org/careers.

Lead Technologist-Reference Lab. This position reports to the Manager of Laboratory Operations. Responsible for the review of daily workload, staff training and competency and compliance with applicable standards of the AABB, CLIA and NYSDOH. This position requires advanced technical knowledge of immunohematology techniques and knowledge of proper handling of biological materials and hazardous chemicals. Candidates must have a BS in Medical Tech or Clinical Lab Science, plus six years' experience at the bench level. Exceptional compensation and benefit package. For more information and online application, please go to: www.ribc.org/careers.

Regional Manager. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking a highly skilled leader with proven management experience and a passion for making a difference. The Regional Manager for McDonough, GA is responsible for overseeing daily operations of the region, is organized and decisive, and can motivate the team to reach daily and long-range collection goals. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position and to apply. <https://www.lifesouth.org/work-at-lifesouth/>

Purchasing Manager. LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is seeking a highly skilled leader with proven management experience and a passion for making a difference. The Purchasing Manager at our headquarters location in Gainesville, FL is responsible for vendor selection, negotiation, establishment and maintenance of all purchased materials, supplies, equipment, and services used by the company. The Purchasing Manager oversees the daily operations of the Purchasing team, is organized and decisive, and can motivate the team to reach daily and long-range goals. Join our team and help us continue our dedication to making sure the blood is there when you or your family is in need. Visit our careers page to learn more about this position and to apply. <https://www.lifesouth.org/work-at-lifesouth/>. 💧