



**To:** Transfusion Services Managers  
**From:** Hospital Relations  
**Date:** June 14, 2023  
**Re:** **Critical – Group O Red Cell Supply**

### **Background**

The group O red blood cell inventory has reached critically low levels. The daily demand outpaces the summer daily collections and projections. Based on the collection projections, we anticipate reduced levels for the next several weeks. We will continue to provide updates throughout the summer.

### **Impact to Clients**

- Group O red cell orders will be filled proportionally to the daily inventory.
- If an order is needed for imminent transfusion, please communicate the urgency to hospital services for triage.
- Group O red cells included in red cell rotation and standing orders could be postponed or cancelled until the supply is deemed stable and will be stocked only to minimal levels.

### **Client Action Required**

- **Reduce Group O** red cell inventory levels to preserve the limited supply for transfusion needs.
- Notify appropriate staff and medical director. Implement a triage process to help manage the critical supply.
- Please cooperate with Carter BloodCare's hospital services team as blood orders are triaged.
- Back orders are cancelled at midnight and must be re-ordered as appropriate.
- Be prepared to release group O red blood cells to meet trauma and/or definite transfusion needs elsewhere should the blood center inventory not be able to support.
- 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 Critical Need Toolkit.](#)

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

We sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding during this time.

Please contact [hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org](mailto:hospitalrelations@carterbloodcare.org) with any concerns.