



Advancing Transfusion and
Cellular Therapies Worldwide

AABB Convenes Ad Hoc Committee on Iron Management Among Blood Donors

May 2017

On March 16, 2017, AABB issued [Association Bulletin #17-02](#), which provides updates and enhances strategies that blood collection establishments could consider to address the risk of iron deficiency in donors.

Though the education of our membership about iron management among blood donors is an important step in considering mitigation practices, it is also important to carefully consider and identify optimal practices. As such, since assessment is challenging and could have a significant impact on the sustainability of the blood supply in the United States, AABB is committed to using an evidence-based risk-based decision making (RBDM) framework to address such a complex issue. The outcome of this approach to blood donor iron management will inform AABB of the next, most appropriate steps the Association should take to address this issue.

AABB has invited representatives from ABC, ARC, CBS, FDA and HHS to participate in this important ad hoc committee. The membership of the committee is listed below.

Name	Facility/Organization
Ralph R. Vassallo, MD, FACP (Chair)	Blood Systems Inc.
James J. Berger, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB	US Department of Health and Human Services
Brian Boyle	Patient Advocate
Brian Custer, PhD, MPH	Blood Systems Research Institute
Dana Devine, PhD	Canadian Blood Services
Anne Eder, MD, PhD	US Food and Drug Administration
Louis M. Katz, MD	America's Blood Centers
Mary O'Neill, MD	American Red Cross
Merlyn Sayers, MBBCh, PhD	Carter Bloodcare
Steven Sloan, MD, PhD	Boston Children's Hospital
Bryan Spencer, MPH	American Red Cross
Jeremy Sugarman, MD, MPH, MA	Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics
Darrell Triulzi, MD	Institute for Transfusion Medicine
Sheila Ward	Canadian Blood Services
TBA	Donor Representative
TBA	Pediatric Hematologist
Zbigniew M. Szczepiorkowski, MD, PhD, FCAP	AABB President (ex-officio)

<u>AABB Staff Liaisons</u>	
Steven Kleinman, MD	Senior Medical Advisor
Christopher Bocquet	Senior Manager, Standards Development
Diane Killion, JD	General Counsel
Thomas Hopkins	Interim Chief Executive Officer

The charge of this ad hoc committee is to identify optimal solutions for management of iron depletion among blood donors using an RBDM approach. In addition, it is expected that the work of this committee will be completed within four months and the results presented to the AABB Board of Directors for further action.

Sincerely yours,

Zbigniew "Ziggy" M. Szczepiorkowski, MD, PhD, FCAP

2016-2017 AABB President