



## Cord Blood Committee

**CHAIR:** Joanne Kurtzberg

**PURPOSE:** To foster AABB’s leadership in biotherapies by advancing the clinical, technical, and regulatory aspects of cord blood and birth tissue therapies. To support and grow AABB’s standards development, policy and advocacy, professional education, and global collaboration in the areas of cord blood and birth tissues.

- CHARGES:**
1. Advise on Guidelines and Emerging Science  
Recommend updates to technical and clinical guidelines based on emerging evidence, regulatory changes, and evolving industry practices. Propose new guideline development.
  2. Monitor the Landscape and Advise the Board  
Identify opportunities, challenges, and trends in the cord blood and birth tissue field. Prepare findings and recommendations for the AABB community. Provide content to AABB for potential publication.
  3. Annual Field Assessment and Reporting  
Establish a structured process for reviewing major advancements in the field, as relevant submit findings for publication (e.g., in TRANSFUSION).
  4. Collaborate Across AABB Structures  
Work with the Cellular Therapy Section Coordinating Committee (CTSCC) and other relevant AABB committees to inform guidance documents, Standards, education, and public policy efforts and provide a forum for cord blood and birthing tissue discussion.
  5. Advance Education and Workforce Development  
Contribute to the development of educational programs, learning tools, and publications to recruit and support professionals in cord blood and cord blood related cellular therapies.
  6. Serve as a Strategic Resource for the Field  
Respond to priority issues raised by the cord blood community and provide consultation on the safety, quality management, and clinical application of cord blood and birthing tissue therapies.
  7. Support Research and Innovation  
Promote clinical and translational research that advances the therapeutic use of cord blood and birthing tissues. Identify opportunities to foster innovation and reduce barriers to development and application.
  8. Engage in Global Collaboration  
Strengthen international engagement by collaborating with global stakeholders and professional societies, to share best practices and support the global cord blood ecosystem.

### Current Personnel as of April 28, 2026

Name	Roles
<b><u>Chair</u></b>	
Joanne Kurtzberg	
<b><u>Member</u></b>	
Aby J. Mathew, PHD	
Andrea Bradford	
Tomasz Baran	
DR Beth Shaz	
Caridad Martinez	
Charis Ober	
Christina Melief	



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Blood & Biotherapies

Name	Roles
Dawn Thut, CABP	
Erin O'Gara	
Filippo Milano	
Dr. Frances Verter	
Ms. Heather L Brown	
Heather Purcell	
Jeff Wilson	
Jonathan Carmichael	
Juan Merayo-Rodriguez, CABP , MD	
Karen Ballen	
Dr. Leland Metheny, III, MD	
Marcie R. Finney	
Dr. Ngaire Elwood	
Patricia Deloatche	
Richard Jennings	
Roger Horton	
Joseph Schwartz, CABP , MD, MPH	
Jeff Wren, CABP	
Gesine Kogler	
<b><u>Staff Liaison</u></b>	
Christina Celluzzi, CABP(H),MS,PHD	
<b><u>VICE_CHAIR</u></b>	
Dr. Colleen Delaney, MD, MSC	

**Time Commitment:** To learn about the time commitments for this committee, please contact the staff liaison listed in the roster above.