Essentials of Transfusion Medicine Webinar Series

Education Resources | New York Blood Center Enterprises

Essentials: Block 1 – Donor Center | 2025

September 17, 2025, 1-2:30 ET (12-1:30 CT)

1.5 Contact Hours

Introduction to Blood Center Operations

Bruce Sachais, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer, NYBCe

Objectives

1. Describe the various activities of the blood center.
2. Discuss the steps in the blood donation process.
3. List the processes that donor centers perform to maximize the quality and safety of blood products.

Level of Instruction

Basic

Component Manufacture

Eric A. Gehrie, MD, Vice President and Medical Director, NYBCe

Objectives

1. Discuss how whole blood is manufactured into red blood cells and plasma.
2. Explain the manufacturing steps, bacterial mitigations, and quality control criteria for apheresis platelets.
3. Describe how cryoprecipitate is manufactured from plasma.

Level of Instruction

Intermediate

September 24, 2025, 1-2:30 ET (12-1:30 CT)

1.5 Contact Hours

Blood Donor Eligibility

Brian Engel, MD, PhD, Medical Director, NYBCe

Objectives

1. Explain the reasons why some people are excluded from donating blood.
2. Explain the different ways in which people are determined to be eligible to donate blood.
3. Describe the Donor History Questionnaire and how it is used.

Level of Instruction

Basic

For more information, including a link to register, visit: nybce.org/webinar

P.A.C.E.

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Bacterial Risk Mitigation for Platelets

Kristin Frederick, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SBB^{CM}, Executive Director, Blood Manufacturing Operations, NYBCe at Blood Bank of Delmarva

Objectives

1. Review FDA Guidance on strategies to mitigate bacterial contamination of platelets.
2. Discuss bacterial detection methods, including the implications of Large Volume Delayed Sampling (LVDS).
3. Discuss the benefits and disadvantages with pathogen reduction.

Level of Instruction

Basic

October 1, 2025, 1-2:30 ET (12-1:30 CT) 1.5 Contact Hours

Nucleic Acid Tests for Blood Safety and Emergency Preparedness

Paula Saa, PhD, Global Medical Affairs Lead, Donor Screening, Roche Diagnostics

Objectives

1. Explain the fundamental advantage of Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) in blood donor screening, including its ability to significantly reduce the "window period."
2. Analyze the different NAT testing strategies employed in blood safety, specifically Individual NAT (IDT) versus minipool (MP) testing.
3. Describe the main applications of NAT in blood product screening, outbreak surveillance and emergency readiness.

Level of Instruction

Basic

Quality and Regulatory Aspects of Blood Banking

Margaret Hannan, BS, MSM/OL, CQA(ASCP), Director, Enterprise Quality Systems, NYBCe

Objectives

1. Describe the regulatory framework for blood banking.
2. Define the key components of a Quality Management System.
3. Differentiate between compliance and Quality Management programs.

Level of Instruction

Basic

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