



March 21, 2016

To: Directors of Clinical Laboratories  
Directors of Transfusion Services

Subject: AABB Standards 5.4.1.3 and 5.4.1.3.1

Since 2007 LifeSouth has been providing predominantly male donor plasma products to its customers as a strategy to decrease the risk of transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI).

In April 2014, to further decrease the risk of TRALI from transfused plasma, LifeSouth began producing plasma components (FFP, LP, PF24, Plasma Cryoprecipitate Reduced) only from male donors or from female donors who have not given birth.

This year, LifeSouth will implement the AABB 30<sup>th</sup> edition Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, including Standards 5.4.1.3 and 5.4.1.3.1 which read as follows:

Plasma, Apheresis Platelets and Whole Blood for allogeneic transfusion shall be from males, females who have not been pregnant, or females who have been tested since their most recent pregnancy and results interpreted as negative for HLA antibodies.

For apheresis platelets this shall be implemented by October 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

In the following months LifeSouth plans to include HLA screening test for qualified female apheresis platelet and plasma donors as part of the global initiative to reduce the incidence of TRALI in blood recipients.

As always, LifeSouth is committed to providing a safe blood supply that meets or exceeds the needs in each community we serve, and to provide a variety of services in support of ongoing and emerging blood and transfusion related activities.

Please feel free to contact me at 1-888-795-2707, if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juan A. Merayo-Rodriguez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular flourish at the end.

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LifeSouth Community Blood Centers