kentucky blood center

January 31, 2011

To Kentucky Blood Center Member Hospitals:

Today, AABB interim standard 5.1.5.1.1 takes effect. As you may know, this standard now requires FDA approved methods (or testing methods validated to be as sensitive as those that are FDA approved) to detect bacterial contamination in all platelet products. Certain methods that have been commonly used on whole blood derived platelets, such as pH and glucose, no longer meet the standard.

Kentucky Blood Center no longer produces or ships whole blood derived platelets.

All platelet products produced by Kentucky Blood Center are collected via apheresis and subsequently tested for bacterial contamination by an FDA approved culture-based method.

Therefore, all platelets received by your facility from Kentucky Blood Center meet interim standard 5.1.5.1.1 and no subsequent testing is required.

Sincerely,

MD

Dennis Williams, MD
Medical Director
Kentucky Blood Center

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