

Medical Services

Our staff physicians are available to support you by consulting with physicians and other health care providers to facilitate appropriate patient care. They have a broad range of experience in transfusion medicine and can offer advice and support regarding blood products and therapies.

Along with our Consultation and Reference Laboratory staff, our physicians are available for consultation when patients experience unusual or less than desired responses to transfusion therapy. This team is also experienced in a variety of transfusion procedures that can help to lessen disease symptoms.

Our spectrum of activity and expertise allows us to provide guidance in a broad range of transfusion-related problems and issues including:

- Interpretation of immunohematology tests and recommendations regarding appropriate transfusion therapy
- Management and evaluation of neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (NAT), including collection of maternal platelets
- Evaluation and management of transfusion complications such as transfusion related acute lung injury (TRALI), delayed hemolytic reactions, allergic reactions and transfusion-transmitted diseases
- Transfusion therapy/component selection
- Blood administration - routine and complex
- Participate in Transfusion Review Committee evaluation

Our physicians are experts on patient blood management and may provide guidance to help you reduce costs by optimizing usage.



Dr. Susan Rossmann, Chief Medical Officer, completed her undergraduate studies at Mount Holyoke College and received an MA and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan. In 1989, she received her M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, where she also completed her residency in anatomic and clinical pathology. She is board certified in both anatomic and clinical pathology and certified in blood banking/transfusion medicine by the American Board of Pathology. Prior to joining The Blood Center's executive staff, Dr. Rossmann held memberships on its technical advisory

and the education and research committees. Dr. Rossmann has served as Chair of the Donor History Questionnaire Taskforce of the AABB and is currently president of America's Blood Centers.

Dr. Beth Hartwell, Medical Director, earned her undergraduate degrees at New Mexico State University



in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and completed training to obtain her MT(ASCP) and SBB certification. She later went on to receive her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston and is board certified in both Clinical Pathology and Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine. Prior to joining The Blood Center, Dr. Hartwell served as the Medical Director of the Transfusion Service at Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center, and continues to collaborate with the physicians of the Texas Trauma Institute. In addition to donor management, she has broad experience in the transfusion

management of various patient populations, and has an active role in the education of blood donors, blood center staff, and medical and clinical healthcare providers.



Established in 1975 and located in Houston, Texas, Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center has become a leading supplier of blood, blood components and related services to clients not only in the Texas Gulf Coast region, but worldwide. We offer an extensive range of products and services to fulfill a variety of client needs.

Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center
www.giveblood.org
1 (888) 482-5663
Commit for Life

giveblood.org/client

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center

Providing the lifesaving products and services you need, when you need them

Hospital Services

We supply a full range of transfusable products, including special order components.

- Red Blood Cells (Deglycerolized, Washed, Frozen, Leukocyte-reduced, Non-leukocyte-reduced)
- Platelets (Pooled and Apheresis – Leukocyte-Reduced)
- Plasma (Apheresis, Cryoprecipitate-reduced, Fresh Frozen, Frozen within 24 hours, Liquid)
- Whole Blood (Leukocyte-reduced and Non-leukocyte-reduced)
- Cryoprecipitate AHF (Single and Pooled)

Additionally we provide modified components and component services to meet specialized needs. These include:

- Additive volume reduction
- Aliquot preparation
- CMV-negative components
- Irradiation
- Pedi-packs
- Platelet volume reduction

We participate in the AABB's National Blood Exchange program, which allows blood centers to share their inventories to assist each other in times of short supply. This ensures that donated blood can be available where it is needed, affording the most effective usage of the available blood supply.

Quality assured: We distribute 75 percent of our inventory within 28 days of its collection – ensuring fresh blood products always are available.

We are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and accredited by AABB as well as state and local agencies to assure the purity, potency and safety of the blood supply and quality of services we provide. Our program of self-inspection and strict internal controls enhances this system of quality assurance.



Service

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is committed to helping patients; therefore we are committed to delivering the best service to our hospital partners. We can provide logistical support, saving you time, resources and expenses. Depending on the service package you select, you may benefit from some or all of the following services:

- Online ordering
- Product deliveries, including STAT and ASAP deliveries
- Unpacking and stocking of products
- Inventory management
- Full-credit return privileges (on select units)
- Specimen pickups
- Consignments
- Usage reporting



Meeting your needs with maximum efficiency

Take advantage of the following cost-management offerings to receive the greatest value for the products and services you need.



Early payment processing: Earn a 1 percent quarterly rebate by making payment by the 15th of the following month, for all months within a quarter.



Joint Recruitment Program: Receive financial credit for hosting blood drives and achieving donation goals.



Usage consultation: We can offer suggestions to help manage your inventory efficiently. Our physicians are available for consultation as well.

Consultation and Reference

Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center's Immunohematology Reference Laboratory (IRL) is accredited by the AABB and certified by CLIA, and provides suitable, safe and effective blood and blood components for transfusion to patients in more than 100 facilities.



Compatibility Testing

This laboratory serves as a transfusion service, typing and crossmatching units for patients. Our highly trained staff can provide assistance in resolving serological anomalies discovered during pre-transfusion testing, such as ABO discrepancies and identification of unexpected antibodies.

The laboratory has an extensive collection of phenotyped red blood cells that enables it to perform procedures such as adsorption and elution that are not easily performed in hospital laboratories and to identify unusual antibodies or mixtures of antibodies.

We offer telephone consultation to clients to aid in troubleshooting and problem solving.



Rare Donor Program

As Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center serves a large and diverse donor population, we routinely test various ethnic donor populations for phenotypes that are homozygous in the major blood group systems and/or negative for high-frequency antigens.

The program provides over 15,000 antigen-negative red blood cells annually for patients who need frequent transfusions or who have extremely rare blood types.

If we are unable to fulfill a rare unit need through our local inventory, we have access to a greater number of units through the American Rare Donor Program, which may only be accessed by accredited IRLs.