



## LABORATORY SERVICES

TO: Asante Providers

FROM: Jacob Grange, MD, ARRCM/ATRCM Blood Bank Medical Director

DATE: July 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Low Yield Platelets

The American Red Cross has a new platelet product that Asante blood banks will be utilizing: low yield platelets (LYP).

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has an established standard for the minimum number of platelets in an apheresis platelet unit ( $3.0 \times 10^{11}$ ). In the past, apheresis units that were below this level were discarded and never distributed for use. However, this threshold is not evidence based. Canada and several European countries use lower levels as an acceptable dose for a platelet unit (e.g.,  $2.4 \times 10^{11}$ ).

LYP units were recently approved by the FDA. These are apheresis units that are just slightly lower than the usual standard ( $2.8-2.9 \times 10^{11}$ ). This means they have at least 90% of the number of platelets as a standard unit. These are not manufactured differently, but simply will not be discarded when they are incidentally produced. These will constitute less than 1% of the total Red Cross platelet inventory, but do provide a marginal gain in extending the availability of platelets to patients.

These LYP units will be seen at Asante shortly. These will be labeled with the actual platelet amount on the product label. At this time, we are recommending their usage generally. We will not be targeting LYP products to any specific patient population given the short shelf-life of platelet products.

If there are any questions, please contact Mary Anthony (ATRCM) at 541-472-7187, Anna Lyon (ARRCM) at 541-789-5106, or Traci Kraft (AACH) at 541-201-4030.