

Preface

The journey to create quality documents for the blood bank and transfusion service continues to move forward. This third edition of *Transfusion Service Manual* follows in the footsteps of the second edition by creating examples of documents that reflect the actual sequence of work activities, supported by detailed instructions for performing the work tasks. The goal is to perform work activities more efficiently and effectively and to increase patient safety.

It is important to understand that the processes and procedures described in this manual are representative samples only and are not meant to indicate any preference regarding the selection of equipment, incubation times, use of specific reagents, etc. It is also important to remember to follow manufacturers' instructions and any directions given in package inserts when developing facility-specific documents.

Readers are encouraged to use the accompanying flash drive to find templates and detailed documents and to modify them according to the facility's needs. Flowcharts may also be modified from the Word documents for those with access to Microsoft Visio. All documents may be used with or without modification. Prior authorization from AABB is not required for either use. It is very important to identify the documents used as belonging to the user's facility!

This edition continues the book's organization into sections by work processes. The work process flowchart is supported by the procedures performed in that process. In Section 8, each set of process and procedure documents is supported by training guidelines and tools for assessing initial and ongoing competence.

We hope that this manual will give you some great ideas in your pursuit of useful documents for your facility!

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