We are pleased offer this AABB Guide to Pneumatic Tube Delivery Systems: Validation and Use to Transport Blood Components. This guide was originally published in 2004, but pneumatic tube delivery systems have continued to evolve as an integral component of the contemporary day-to-day functioning of blood bank and transfusion medicine services. If anything, there has been increased reliance on pneumatic tube delivery systems in recent years, and certainly the software used to operate them has become highly sophisticated. Adequate staffing is an increasing concern, as is the system workload.

This new Guide largely preserves the solid basis of the original document but with many overdue modifications. The relevant regulatory requirements that are highlighted in the Guide have been revised to reflect current expectations and practice. The content on validation has been augmented to reflect developments in quality assessment. In addition, the references have been refreshed and expanded for readers interested in further knowledge. It is our hope that this Guide will prove to be an invaluable resource for users who are looking ahead to future needs of their institutions.

The Transfusion Medicine Section Coordinating Committee was the driving force behind a revision at this time and oversaw the development of this publication. The small group of contributors worked collaboratively on making it a resource that should be useful to many. Their dedication and efforts have been greatly appreciated.

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