

Preface

It has been an honor and a privilege to have been asked by the AABB to work with a group of subject matter experts to create a *Guide* publication explaining patient blood management (PBM) and its metrics. The goal of this publication is to serve as a comprehensive source—first explaining the various aspects of PBM and then diving into the review, audit, and measurement of program efforts to make continuous improvements in patient care.

Although there have been reports of PBM being practiced in the 1950s and 1960s, it has come of age within the past decade. This has been, in part, driven by the development of sophisticated information technology systems. The evolution of widespread use of electronic health records allows large amounts of transfusion data, previously available only on paper, to be readily retrievable.

This publication is the product of those who truly believe in the value of PBM. This *Guide* will benefit anyone seeking to start or enhance their PBM program as the intent is to promote the journey from being a good PBM program to becoming a great one.

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