

Preface

ON BEHALF OF THE EDITORS, AUTHORS, and reviewers, I am pleased to introduce the 22nd edition of the AABB *Technical Manual*. The *Technical Manual* was first published in 1953 as *Technical Methods and Procedures of the American Association of Blood Banks*. Almost 75 years later, the *Technical Manual* has evolved as the seminal text in the field of transfusion medicine.

The 22nd edition preserves a legacy of excellence imparting contemporary best practices in transfusion medicine. Like previous editions, the *Technical Manual* is the product of a multiyear process of rigorous content development from experts in the field, careful curation, expert peer review, and editing, the latter undertaken by the extraordinary group of Associate Editors: Sally Campbell-Lee, MD; David H McKenna Jr, MD; Celina Montemayor-Garcia, MD, PhD; Joseph (Yossi) Schwartz, MD, MPH; Beth Shaz, MD; and Jill Storry, PhD, FBBTS.

The content covers core topics spanning blood center operations (eg, quality management, hemovigilance, donor selection, component collection, regulatory oversight etc), clinical practice (eg, patient blood management, infectious and noninfectious hazards of transfusion), and laboratory transfusion practice (eg, immunohematology, immunogenetics, etc). The text also offers guidance on transfusion practice in selected patient populations (eg, neonates, children and transplantation recipients), tissue/milk banking, and cellular therapy.

Evolution of the *Technical Manual* is dynamic, whereby the authors have refined

—and improved— on prior content where possible, integrating the new, while paying tribute to the traditional. The role of the transfusion medicine practitioner has grown substantially, along with the foundation skill set for clinical practice. This is reflected in the topics that are included, recognizing the diverse cadre of practitioners who rely on the *Technical Manual*, coupled with the growing breadth of skills and foundational knowledge needed today.

Such has informed the addition of three new chapters: 1) “Regulatory Considerations in Biotherapies,” 2) “Hemostasis and Coagulation,” and 3) “Transfusion Practices in Resource-Limited Settings.” The latter acknowledges the *Technical Manual* as a global resource for the field of transfusion medicine. The content is accessible to a wide audience spanning physicians, technologists, administrators, and trainees alike, again highlighting the scope of this prized resource. We have also continued to post the methods and appendices online, which remain accessible to users of both the print and digital formats.

It has been a privilege to work closely with the dedicated staff at AABB and members of the transfusion medicine/cellular therapy community who helped to produce this edition. On behalf of the editors, authors, and reviewers, I hope you enjoy using the 22nd edition of the *Technical Manual*, and that it serves to advance care for your patients.

Evan M. Bloch, MBChB, MS
Editor in Chief