



Blood Centers  
of the Pacific

# Update

Newsletter for Hospitals  
December, 1999

## **A Patient's Guide to Blood Transfusions.**

The California Department of Health Services, in partnership with the Medical Technical Advisory Committee of Blood Centers of California, has recently made available a revised brochure entitled, "If You Need Blood." This brochure provides relevant information regarding various transfusion options and is a source of information rather than a replacement for informed consent. It is intended to assist physicians with Gann Act compliance.

Brochures are available from:

Medical Board of California  
1426 Howe Avenue, Suite 54  
Sacramento, California 95825  
(916)-263-2479

## **Blood Centers of the Pacific at the AABB Meeting:**

Many Blood Centers of the Pacific staff members gave presentations at this year's AABB meeting in San Francisco:

Phyllis Walker presented a Short topic entitled, "The Knops Blood Group", in the Clinical/Technical Series of presentations. Nora Hirschler, M.D. served as Director & Moderator: Nursing SIG on Transfusion Reactions. BCP researchers made 21 oral and 5 poster presentations at the AABB Meeting. All abstracts will be published in the Annual Meeting Supplement issue of TRANSFUSION.

## **Blood Centers of the Pacific announces new prices for 2000.**

Blood Centers of the Pacific will raise processing fees for all blood products and services by approximately 4% beginning January 1, 2000 or at the beginning of each contract year, whichever comes first. This price increase is consistent with the increase in the consumer price index for health care in 1999. New fee schedules will be mailed on or before December 1, 1999.

## **Universal Leukoreduction Phase-In Period.**

As previously announced, Blood Centers of the Pacific, in keeping with trends in transfusion medicine throughout Western Europe, Canada and in the United States, is transitioning to the universal leukoreduction of all cellular blood products. This transition, which BCP began November 1, 1999 is scheduled to be completed by April 1, 2000. As of November 1, 1999 products dispensed as leukocyte-reduced will not be billing adjusted.



Irwin Memorial  
Blood Centers



PENINSULA  
BLOOD BANK

## **Peninsula South Bay Center Distribution Department Closure.**

It is with regret that Blood Centers of the Pacific announces the October 15, 1999 closure of the Distribution Department at the Peninsula South Bay Center in Burlingame. Like most health care facilities in Northern California, Blood Centers of the Pacific is undergoing difficult financial times. Despite the difficulty of this decision, it was in the best interest of the future financial well-being of the organization. The inventory, storage, distribution and delivery functions of the Peninsula Center have been consolidated into our San Francisco operation.

Please join us in thanking the employees of the Dispatch Department at the Peninsula Center for their many years of excellent service to the hospitals of that area and wishing them all the best in their future endeavors.

## **Technical Advisory Committee meetings.**

The final TAC meetings of this millennium have been scheduled as follows:

Location	Date	Time
Fairfield	Tuesday, 12/7/99	2:00 PM
San Francisco	Wednesday, 12/8/99	8:30 AM

### **Agenda:**

1. Y2K preparedness
2. Y2K blood supply
3. Universal Leukoreduction
4. 2000 fee schedule
5. Educational Services Survey (What seminars do you want in 2000)
6. Gann Act Brochures
7. Miscellaneous