

# LIFESOUTH

## Community Blood Centers

June 4, 2025

**To:** Directors of Clinical Laboratories  
Directors of Transfusion Services

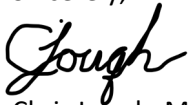
**Subject:** AS-3 and CPDA-1 RBC Supply Update

A new manufacturer (GVS) has acquired Haemonetics whole blood manufacturing. We anticipate this will allow continued availability of AS-3 RBCs indefinitely. This change has not affected our discontinuation of CPDA-1 RBCs in early 2026.

The supply of AS-1 RBCs remains unchanged and readily available. AS-1 RBCs have proven safe in all populations, including low volume transfusions ( $\leq 15$  mL/kg) for neonates.<sup>1-3</sup> Conclusive studies have not been published around higher volume transfusions with additive solution RBCs (20-25 mL/kg). Due to theoretical issues from mannitol, some practitioners prefer to utilize AS-3 in patients with small blood volumes or receiving large volume transfusions. LifeSouth is pleased to be able to continue to offer this option to our partners.

We recommend consultation with your medical teams to plan for any needed changes to pediatric transfusion practices. A statement on the acquisition can be found here: <https://haemonetics.gcs-web.com/news-releases/news-release-details/haemonetics-announces-sale-whole-blood-assets-gvs-spa>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at [cmlough@lifesouth.org](mailto:cmlough@lifesouth.org).

Sincerely,



Chris Lough, M.D.

Vice President of Medical Services

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers, Inc.

1) Jain, R and Jaroz, C. Safety and efficacy of AS-1 red blood cell use in neonates. *Transfusion Apheresis Science* 2001; 24: 111-115.

2) Strauss, R et al. AS-1 red cells for neonatal transfusion: a randomized trial assessing donor exposure and safety. *Transfusion* 1996; 36:873-878.

3) Strauss, R. Data-driven blood banking practices for neonatal RBC transfusions. *Transfusion* 2000; 40: 1528-1540.