



June 16, 2021

From: Chris Lough, M.D.  
Vice President of Medical Services

Subject: HLA-Matched Platelet Products

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LifeSouth HLA-matched platelet orders have transitioned to our Immunohematology Reference Laboratory in Gainesville, FL. This change allows for 24/7 coverage and communication surrounding these products. There are no changes in ordering, and orders may be completed through HemaControl or faxed order form. Any questions regarding the status of products or changes to orders should be communicated directly to the lab at 352-334-1028.

For all HLA-matched platelet orders, please provide the patient's HLA antigen type (HLA-A and B) with the order. If unavailable, LifeSouth offers a platelet refractory workup in our CAP-accredited HLA lab including HLA antigen typing and an HLA antibody screen. If this screen is reactive, antibody identification will then be performed. HLA Antibody Identification allows for use of the avoidance strategy which typically allows use of exponentially more eligible donors. These services may also be ordered individually.

The process of recruiting, collecting, and processing an HLA-matched platelet product typically takes days to weeks, depending on rarity. If a platelet refractory patient has an urgent need, the use of ABO-compatible pre-storage pooled products (Acrodose) or platelet crossmatching is recommended.

If you have any questions or would like more information about our HLA testing services and platelet refractory patient services, please feel free to contact me directly at 352-224-1644 or [cmlough@lifesouth.org](mailto:cmlough@lifesouth.org).