



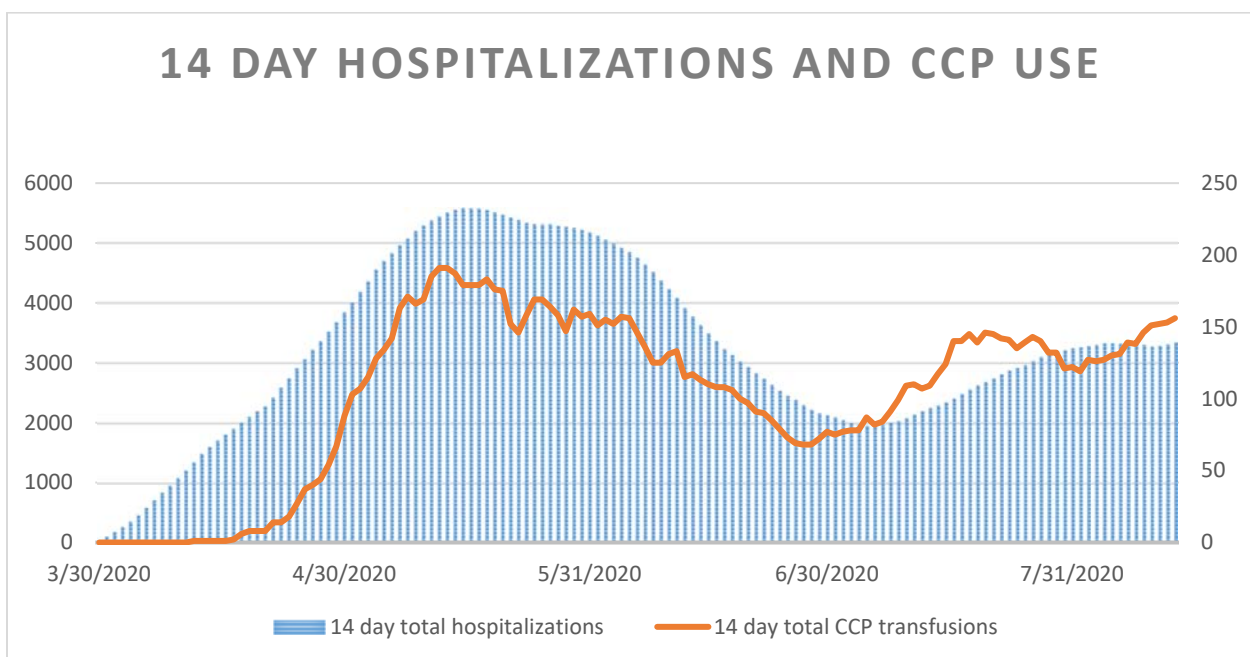
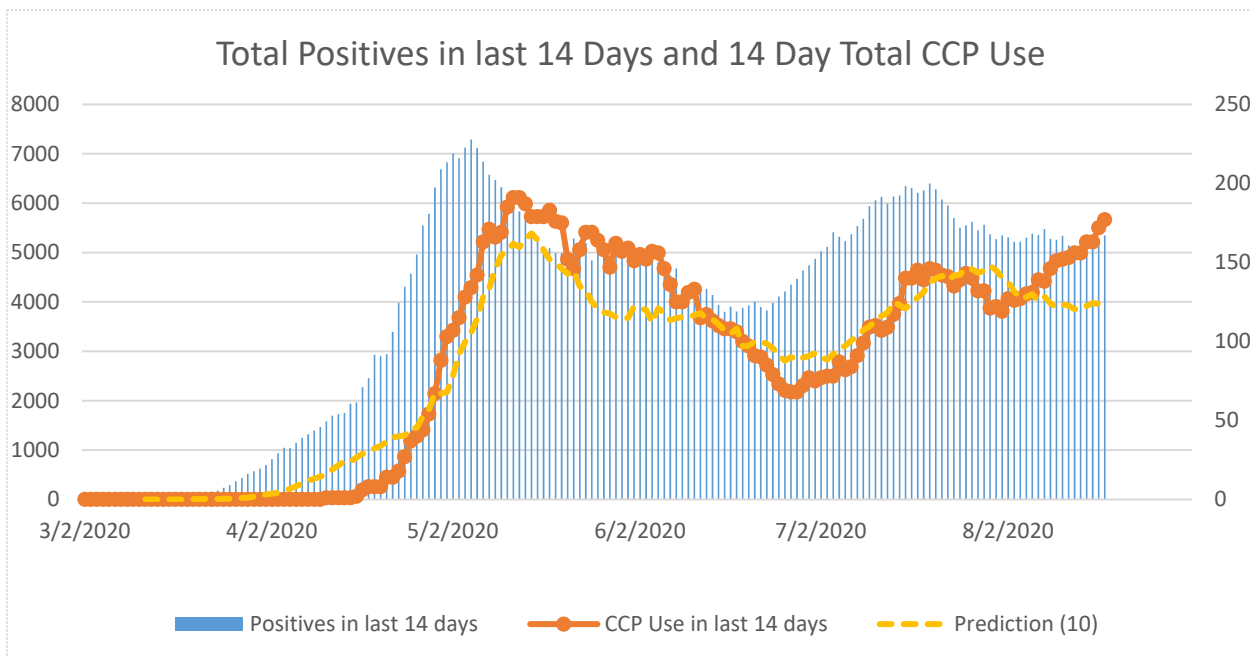
Quality Excellence Overview

August 2020



CCP Availability

The demand for COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma (CCP) has continued to increase nationally. LifeServe Blood Center is proud to have been one of the first independent blood centers to offer this product to our local customers. With the increasing national demand, we have been working to monitor and predict what our regional needs will be so that we can assist patients across the country while ensuring that our local patients have this vital product available to them. Below are charts tracking our regional trends to help predict minimum inventories that we need to keep on hand as hospitalization cases fluctuate over time.



Information from our Technical Services Supervisor

Bacterial Risk and FDA Platelet Guidance

Upcoming changes at LifeServe Blood Center will include new bacterial risk control strategies to align with the FDA's new platelet guidance. Room temperature platelet products are associated with higher sepsis risk and related fatalities. Bacterial contamination of platelets is actually the leading infection risk from transfusions, with the highest risk occurring in platelets that are at days 4 to 5 in their shelf life. This risk has continued after the implementation of a single culture after 24 hours. This has led the FDA to establish additional regulations to further address the control of bacterial contamination of platelets. Their updated recommendations to control the risk of bacterial contamination applies to room temperature stored platelets intended for transfusion, both apheresis and whole blood derived platelets in plasma and preservative. Implementation of bacterial risk control strategies must be completed by March, 31, 2021.

Strategies may include:

Single Step Strategies:

- Large Volume, Delayed Sampling (LVDS) ≥ 36 hours
- Large Volume, Delayed Sampling (LVDS) ≥ 48 HOURS
- Pathogen Reduction

Two-Step Strategies:

Step 1: Primary Culture ≥ 24 hours

Or

Large Volume, Delayed Sampling (LVDS) ≥ 36 hours

Step 2: Secondary Culture

Or

Secondary Rapid Testing

To read the full guidance click [here](#).

This fall, LifeServe will host an educational webinar to outline these strategies and how LifeServe plans to align with this new guidance. I will send further information once the webinar dates and times have been finalized.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

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