

Hoxworth

BLOOD CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI 

2023 COMMUNITY REPORT



Saving Lives Close to Home Since 1938

Hoxworth

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Saving Lives Close To Home Since 1938

*Community
Research
Education*

Our **MISSION**

To enhance the well being of patients in our service area by assuring a reliable and economical supply of the safest possible blood, by providing innovative hemotherapy services, and by promoting research and education programs in transfusion medicine.

Our **VISION**

Hoxworth Blood Center will be recognized for saving and improving lives in our community with safe and reliable blood and innovative cell therapies.



Letter from the Director

Dr. José Cancelas began leading Hoxworth in February 2018. He is the fifth director in the 85-year history of Hoxworth, the oldest operating community blood center in the nation. He also has served in several other positions with Hoxworth since 2000, including division director of research, medical director for the Hoxworth Cellular Therapies Division, and deputy director. Dr. Cancelas remains active in Hoxworth research as co-director, with a focus on executing clinical trials.

As we embark on our 85th year of service to the greater Cincinnati community, I am filled with immense pride reflecting on Hoxworth Blood Center's remarkable journey. Since our establishment in 1938, we have proudly served as the sole Tri-State blood provider, offering hope to family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues while demonstrating unwavering dedication to our mission of *Saving Lives Close to Home*.

2023 marked a significant milestone in our history — Hoxworth Blood Center's 85th anniversary. As the oldest operating blood center in the nation, we celebrate not only our longevity but also the countless lives touched and saved through the generous contributions of donors, volunteers, and dedicated staff.

In our relentless pursuit of innovation and excellence, 2023 brought along other historic milestones including the rollout of the FDA approved Individual Donor Assessment questionnaire. This tool represents a significant advancement in ensuring the safety and well-being of both donors and recipients. By gathering comprehensive information tailored to each donor, we reinforce our commitment to providing the safest possible blood products to those in need.

Additionally, we welcomed Dr. Xuefeng Wang as an associate professor and researcher at Hoxworth Blood Center. Dr. Wang, a renowned biomedical researcher and innovator, brings a wealth of expertise and passion to our organization. His groundbreaking work promises to push the boundaries of transfusion medicine, paving the way for new advancements in patient care.

As we continue to uphold our mission, we recognize the importance of diversity and inclusivity in our donor community. We remain steadfast in our efforts to raise awareness and encourage individuals from all backgrounds to join us in this life-saving endeavor. Together, we can make a difference and ensure that every patient receives the critical blood products they need.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your continued support and dedication to our cause. With our collective efforts, I am confident that we will continue to Save Lives Close to Home, inspiring hope and making a lasting impact in our community for years to come.

With deepest appreciation,

José A. Cancelas, MD, PhD
Director/CEO, Hoxworth Blood Center

An Internationally Recognized Leader in Transfusion Medicine

Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati, is the only blood center in the Greater Cincinnati area. Serving Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, Hoxworth collects, tests, processes, and distributes blood and blood components to more than 30 area hospitals and medical facilities. Additionally, Hoxworth provides numerous clinical services to area hospitals.

Founded by Dr. Paul I. Hoxworth in 1938, Hoxworth has become an internationally recognized leader in transfusion medicine. Today, Hoxworth has a staff of more than 300 full-time and part-time employees in 21 departments and a complement of more than 100 volunteers.

Hoxworth Senior Leadership Team



José Cancelas
MD, PhD
Director, Chief Executive Officer;
Division Director, Research



Caroline Alquist
MD, PhD
Chief Transplant & Cellular Therapies Officer; Division Director of T1D, Apheresis, and Cellular Therapy



David Oh
MD, MHA
Chief Medical Officer; Division Director, Clinical Services



Judith Gonzalez
BS, MLS(ASCP)^{cm}, CABP
Chief Blood Operations Officer; Executive Director, Operations



Nick Leibold
MBA
Chief Financial Officer/Executive Director of Business Administration



Janice Habel
BS, MT(ASCP)
Division Director, Quality Assurance, Regulatory Affairs



Thomas Leemhuis
PhD
Division Director, Cellular Therapies



Carolyn Lutzko
PhD
CCHMC



Jennifer O'Connor
MSTM, MLS(ASCP)^{cm}, SBB^{cm}
Division Director, Laboratories



Michael Wilson
MS
Division Director, Donor Operations



Jen Howell
BS
Division Director, Marketing & Communications



Melissa Knight
Senior Business Administrator

Community Advisory Board

Dick Aft, PhD, Philanthropic Leadership

Nicholas Apanius,
Messer Construction Co.

Deirdre Murphy Beluan,
The Health Collaborative

Dawn Berryman,
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

John Byczkowski, Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati (Retired)

Bernie Calonge, Marsh (Retired)

Chris Carle, St. Elizabeth Provider Network (Retired)

Alfonso Cornejo,
Hispanic Chamber Cincinnati USA

Philip Diller, MD, PhD,
UC College of Medicine

Andrew Filak, MD,
UC Academic Health Center

Rick Hall, Fidelity Investments

Renee Mahaffey Harris,
Closing the Health Gap

Helen Hartmann, Morgan Stanley

DJ Hodge, iHeartMedia Markets Group - Cincinnati

Bret Marshall, CTI Clinical Trial & Consulting Headquarters

Barry Massa, LifeCenter Organ Donor Network

Neha Matta, JD, Frost Brown Todd

Carol Metzger, University of Cincinnati

Valerie Miller, DXC Technology

Matt Morgan,
Grant County School District

Grant Mussman, MD,
Cincinnati Health Department

Colleen O'Toole, PhD,
The Health Collaborative (Retired)

Jamie Rausch, GE Aviation

Ronald Sacher, MD,
Hoxworth Blood Center

Mark Schlachter, Heavy Metal Mark

Robert Sinkhorn, Centric Consulting LLC

Miska Spaulding,
Kroger Precision Marketing, 84.51°

Jillian Waters,
St. Elizabeth Dearborn Hospital

Karen Schuster Webb, PhD,
Union Institute & University

Karen Yunker,
St. Elizabeth Hospital Edgewood

Hoxworth by the Numbers 2023

Blood Collections by Product

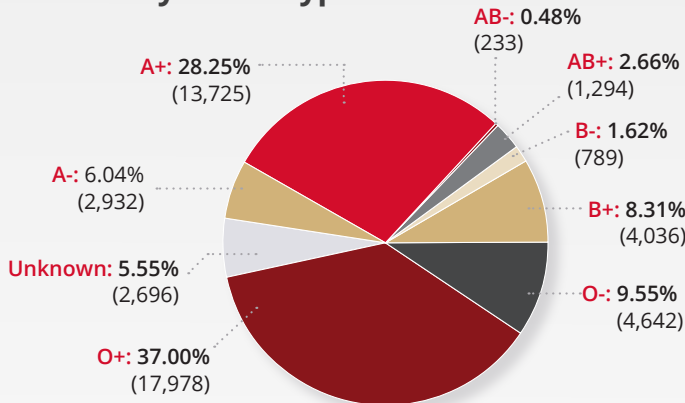
Units Collected: 116,300

Whole Blood: 71,476	Platelets: 20,568
Red Cells: 21,510	Plasma: 2,746



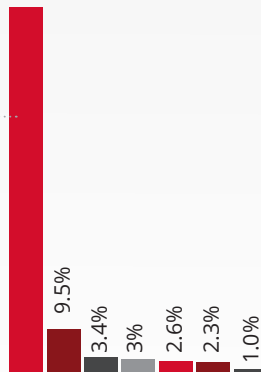
Best Month (Platelets + Red Cells):
September – 11,676 units collected

Donors by Blood Type



Blood Collections by NDC + Mobile Drive Partners

Donor Centers:	86,653 (78.1%)
Businesses:	10,546 (9.5%)
High Schools:	3,728 (3.4%)
Faith Based:	3,373 (3%)
Hospitals:	2,931 (2.6%)
Colleges:	2,595 (2.3%)
Other:	1,102 (1%)



Donor Profile

Unique Donors: 48,320
 First-time donors: 7,692
 Female: 27,164 (55.91%)
 Male: 21,156 (44.09%)



Donors by Age

24 and under: 8,192 (17%)
 25-39: 9,999 (21%)
 40-60: 18,457 (38%)
 60+: 11,677 (24%)



Number of Donors by Neighborhood Donor Center (NDC) Location

Blue Ash: 15,876
 Ft. Mitchell: 14,773
 Anderson: 12,040
 West: 8,975
 North: 8,927
 Tri-Country: 5,689
 Central: 5,610



Mobile Drive Collections

Number of Mobile Drives: 676
 Total Units Collected (*Red Cells, Platelets, Plasma*): 24,275

Fundraising

Jan 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023

Total Raised: \$136,090
 Number of Donors: 187



Golf Outing Fundraiser: \$42,125

Hoxworth Blood Center Celebrates 85 Years of Saving Lives Close to Home

Internationally recognized leader in transfusion medicine paves the way for innovative hemotherapy



Dr. Hoxworth's vision of emphasizing the importance of blood donation remains as steadfast today as it did 85 years ago.

Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati, marked its 85th anniversary on December 10, 2023, making it the perfect time to reflect on the institution's remarkable journey in revolutionizing transfusion medicine and saving lives close to home since 1938.

Founded by Dr. Paul Hoxworth, a visionary native of Columbus, Ohio, the center's origins trace back to 1938. Dr. Hoxworth, then assistant in surgery at Cincinnati's General Hospital, identified critical challenges in maintaining an adequate blood supply for medical treatments. Recognizing the inefficiency and delays associated with relying on friends and relatives as donors, Dr. Hoxworth embarked on a mission to transform the landscape of blood donation in Greater Cincinnati.

A significant milestone was achieved in December 1938, with the opening of Cincinnati's first community blood bank — the ARC Transfusion Center at Cincinnati General Hospital. Dr. Hoxworth served as the inaugural director with his wife, Nancy, who worked alongside him as a secretary. The center operated 24/7 and maintained a list of donors available for immediate contact, accumulating around 3,400 donations in 1939.

In 1944, the blood center became a part of the University of Cincinnati, evolving into the UC Blood Transfusion Service. In 1973, in honor of its pioneering founder, the transfusion service was renamed the Paul

left to right: Donor Don Wesley at the 85th celebration; Historic Hoxworth blood-mobiles; Volunteers have long been a vital part of Hoxworth; Hoxworth staff and family at the anniversary celebration





HBC Drs. David Oh, José Cancelas, and Caroline Alquist

I. Hoxworth Blood Center and is now widely known as Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati. The center is the oldest operating blood bank in the nation and the only community blood bank in the United States partnered with the university, sharing a tri-part mission of community, research, and education.

Dr. Hoxworth's vision of emphasizing the importance of blood donation remains as steadfast today as it did 85 years ago. Hoxworth now has a team of nearly 300 dedicated employees and collects more than 100,000 units of blood annually to serve more than 30 hospitals across Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. In addition to being the sole provider of blood products in the greater Cincinnati area, Hoxworth also supports all solid organ and bone marrow transplant programs in the region.

Hoxworth operates seven Neighborhood Donor Centers, and hundreds of mobile blood drives to continue its ongoing mission of ensuring a safe and stable blood supply and to provide innovative cellular therapies for the Greater Cincinnati community. 📍



Hoxworth Employee 30+ Year Anniversaries

Janice Habel, Div. Dir. Of QA
41 Years of Service

Paul Brailey, Asst. Dir. Of TID
38 Years of Service

Sonya Foster, Admin Donor Services
37 Years of Service

Marlene Whitfield, Blood Bank Tech
35 Years of Service

Claire Ackemeyer, Admin
34 Years of Service

Tina Haas, Records Mgmt QA
34 Years of Service

Robert Tolbert, Storekeeper
33 Years of Service

Kelli Gast, Staffing Coordinator
33 Years of Service

Odetta Sloan, QA Specialist
33 Years of Service

Susan Wiling, Clinical Lab Scientist
32 Years of Service

Neeta Rugg, Asst. Div. Dir. Research
31 Years of Service

Sharon Kuchma, Clinical Lab Scientist
31 Years of Service

Top Donors - Lifetime Donations

Thomas Maly, *967 lifetime donations*

Timothy Helmick, *521 lifetime donations*

Donald Wesley, *490 lifetime donations*

Stephen McBride, *454 lifetime donations*

Richard Manoukian, *435 lifetime donations*

Karen Borgman, *419 lifetime donations*

Jimmy Hanna, *419 lifetime donations*

Richard Specker, *403 lifetime donations*

Tina Wuorinen, *396 lifetime donations*

Roger Reis, *395 lifetime donations*



Lists of LIFESAVERS

Our many partnerships with colleges, businesses, hospitals, faith organizations, schools, and community organizations are as vital to our blood supply as our individual donors.

2023 Blood Collections: **Our Top 10 community blood drive partners collected a total of 15,428 units of blood.**



COLLEGE PARTNERS:

1. **University of Cincinnati: 1,556**
2. Xavier University: 311
3. UC (Blue Ash, Clermont, Medical): 294
4. Northern Kentucky University: 158
5. Mount St. Joseph University: 94
6. Thomas More University: 59
7. IBEW: 53
8. Cincinnati State: 39
9. Beckfield College: 20
10. Galen College of Nursing: 11

**2,595
UNITS**

FAITH PARTNERS:

1. **Knights of Columbus, Bright: 261**
2. Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt. Healthy: 197
3. St. Columban Catholic Church: 177
4. St. Maximilian Kolbe: 139
5. St. Anthony of Padua: 122
6. Church of the Brethren Annual Conference: 117
7. Sardinia Church of Christ: 116
8. St. John the Evangelist: 103
9. St. Joseph Parish Cold Spring: 101
10. Corpus Christi Catholic Church: 97

1,430
UNITS

BUSINESS PARTNERS:

1. **Montgomery Inn: 557**
2. Kroger: 437
3. Western & Southern: 323
4. Ethicon: 278
5. MedPace: 269
6. Skyline Chili: 266
7. Countryside YMCA: 225
8. P&G: 216
9. Fluor BWXT Portsmouth: 180
10. Graeter's Ice Cream: 177

2,928
UNITS

HOSPITAL PARTNERS:

1. **Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center: 2,662**
2. St. Elizabeth Healthcare: 1,675
3. TriHealth: 1,051
4. Bon Secours Mercy Health: 515
5. UC Health: 486
6. Margaret Mary Health: 364
7. Cincinnati VA Medical Center: 260
8. The Christ Hospital: 255
9. Highland District Hospital: 149
10. Adams County Regional Medical Center: 119

7,536
UNITS

HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERS:

1. **Rising Sun High School: 143**
2. William Henry Harrison High School: 106
3. Little Miami High School: 103
4. East Central High School: 91
5. Edgewood High School: 91
6. Conner High School: 87
7. Bethel Tate High School: 80
8. U.S. Grant Career Center: 80
9. Batavia High School: 79
10. Ryle High School: 79

939
UNITS

Community BLOOD DRIVES



Raising awareness for sickle cell and need for diverse blood supply

Carla Howard's journey with sickle cell disease began at the age of two, when Carla was diagnosed with sickle cell disease — a blood disorder that changes normal, round red blood cells into a rigid, crescent moon shape. These abnormal cells can block blood vessels, impede oxygen flow and cause extreme pain.

Standard treatment for many patients with sickle cell disease includes regular blood transfusions, like Carla received back in 2017 after she experienced a sickle cell crisis. Locally, the blood required for these transfusions comes directly from Hoxworth Blood Center donors and is specially matched to each patient by Hoxworth's 24-hour onsite laboratory staff.

"Patients that require chronic transfusion therapy, like those with sickle cell, will require more specially matched units of blood," explains Caroline Alquist, MD, PhD, Chief Transplant Services Officer, Hoxworth Blood Center.

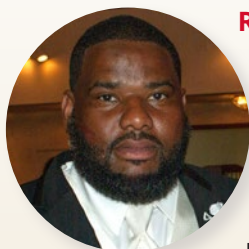
"Because different genetic and ethnic backgrounds have different proteins on the surface of red blood cells, an individual will be better matched to someone with the same genetic or ethnic background, which is why a diverse blood supply is critically needed for patients battling sickle cell."

Carla Howard's blood drive, in partnership with Delta Sigma Theta–Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter, registered 50 blood donors, including 30 individuals who rolled up a sleeve for the very first time; making a significant impact on the greater Cincinnati blood supply.

Hoxworth officials note that more than 750 units of red blood cells have been used directly for local sickle cell patients over the last couple of months alone, and the need will continue to grow.

"If we have a blood supply that matches the patients in need, we can do a much better job at matching and providing blood in a quicker and more efficient way," says Alquist. ♦

Remembering Reco Gunnels, Sr.



Reco Gunnels Sr., affectionately known as a gentle giant with an unwavering commitment to serving others, left a mark on all who knew him. In a heartwarming tribute, his family, business partners, and affiliates united on September 8, 2023, to bring hope and make a lasting impact

on the lives of their communities. The occasion marks the fifth annual "Give for Peace" blood drive, aimed at not only providing resources and education but also fostering a sense of togetherness that reflects Reco's spirit. This tribute, initiated by his family, not only honored his legacy but sought to bring about positive change in the lives of those who attended.

The event was an embodiment of Reco's philosophy, "Go Big or Go Home!" It was not just a memorial; it was a vibrant celebration of Reco's values and the impact he made during his time on Earth. He had a profound sense of community and camaraderie. He was known for organizing community cookouts to promote unity and support for those impacted by gun violence. Tragically, Reco himself fell victim to gun violence on August 24, 2017. His family, community, and business partners are determined to turn the pain of loss into a driving force for change and justice.

"We hold onto hope to receive justice for our family and all that loved him," says Kelly Gunnels Valines, sister of Reco. "The annual blood drive serves as a symbol of that hope, as well as a way to give back to the community that Reco cared so deeply about." ♦

HOXWORTH BLOOD DRIVES

Hoxworth held 674 total blood drives that were hosted by local organizations across the Tri-State to collect 24,275 units of blood and platelets. Of the 674 total blood drives, 24 were honorary blood drives that memorialize or support a recipient or an organization. From churches and businesses to high schools and colleges, donors selflessly gave of themselves to assist in *Saving Lives Close To Home*.

TOP 20 HONORARY BLOOD DRIVES:

- Roger's Blood Drive '50 units in 50 days' at NDC locations: 301
- Super Noah's Squad (Noah Mattingly): 279
- William's Wish (C248): 166
- Storm Bratchett: 150
- Jessica's Blood Drives: 100
- Judy Morand Memorial Blood Drive: 75
- Ben Strong Giveback: 67
- Brynn's Birthday: 63
- Pray Hope Believe Foundation (hosted by St. Ann): 61
- Sophia Kappen Memorial: 56
- Super Cohen: 56
- Beth Papin: 52
- Super Ollie's Sidekicks: 49
- Wealth Dimensions Group (on behalf of Jackson Curti): 39
- Jim's Journey: 39
- Nicholas R. Cordrey Foundation: 35
- Winton Road First Church of God (on behalf of Brynn Schulte): 33
- Team Eli: 33
- Live Like Maya Foundation: 32
- Belle Meade Friends of Molly: 30

SPECIALTY BLOOD DRIVES:

Hoxworth held 49 on-site specialty blood drives in 2023, collecting a total of 2,767 units with 324 first-time blood donors joining our lifesaving mission.

Blood Drive Partner | Units Collected | First-Time Donors

- 5th Annual Cincinnati Favorites | 1,237 | 162
(Summer-long event, 9 partners, 28 drives)
- Montgomery Inn The Boathouse | 374 | 39
- Queen City Blood Drive | 328 | 23
(Partner with several community organizations)
- YMCA Blood Drives | 261 | 26
(Several blood drives throughout the Tri-State)
- Montgomery Inn The Original | 183 | 24
- Busken Bakery | 132 | 17
- Music Hall Blood Drives | 121 | 17
(Seven participating local arts organizations)
- Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park | 51 | 6
- Dr. Charles Drew | 43 | 10
(hosted by Allen Temple AME Church)
- Taft Museum of Art | 37 | 10
Partnership with Cincinnati Art Museum, Contemporary Art Center



To host a blood drive in your community, visit hoxworth.org/donors/host



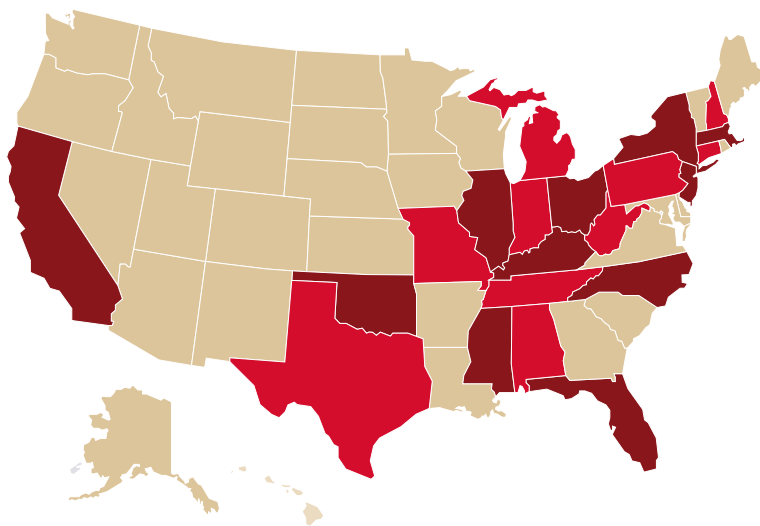
APHERESIS



In 2023, Hoxworth's Apheresis and Cell Therapy Divisions once again provided comprehensive cell collection and processing support for all of the region's hematopoietic stem cell (bone marrow) transplants. The Apheresis team collects the cellular material from either healthy donors or patients themselves to handoff to Cellular Therapies staff for cryopreservation and storage services. Together, our groups facilitated more than 230 transplants this year. In addition, our teams provide services for a rapidly growing number of commercially available and investigational immunotherapy products being administered locally.

WHERE DO YOU STEM FROM?

In 2023, people from all over the United States visited Hoxworth for stem cell donation.



2023 Apheresis Procedure Totals

Cellular Therapy Procedures

Hematopoietic Stem Cells.....	349
Mononuclear Cells	149

Therapeutic Procedures

Therapeutic Plasma Exchange (plasma replacement).....	447
Thrombocytapheresis (platelet removal).....	1
Leukocytapheresis (white blood cell removal).....	16
(granulocyte collection).....	29
Extracorporeal photopheresis (white blood cell treatment)	274
Red blood cell exchange (red blood cell replacement)	312



left: The Apheresis collection space at Hoxworth; right: Stem cell donor

CELLULAR THERAPIES

Another product our Cellular Therapy group is particularly proud of are our viral-specific T cells for the treatment of viral infections in immunocompromised patients. Approximately 70 batches of a cultured virus-specific T-lymphocyte product were produced and tested in three separate clinical trials at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Two of the studies expanded to become multicenter studies and are now enrolling patients at UC Health, Akron Children's and Ohio State as well. There were a record 225 infusions performed for these clinical trials in 2023.

In anticipation of continued growth in the demand for hematopoietic stem cell therapy, immunotherapy, and gene therapy products locally in 2024 and beyond, Hoxworth has been busy constructing a new state of the art ISO-certified cleanroom this past year, essentially doubling the capacity for production of these types of products. It is anticipated to be fully operational in Summer of 2024.

2023 Cellular Therapy Procedures

Local autologous transplants	100
Local allogeneic transplants	130
Virus-specific T cells.....	70 batches / 225 infusions



left: The Cell Therapy team in 2023; top right: Howorth staff working in clean room; bottom right: Hoxowrth staff working in lab

Research & EDUCATION

Renowned biomedical researcher and innovator, Xuefeng Wang, PhD, joined Hoxworth Blood Center as associate professor and researcher



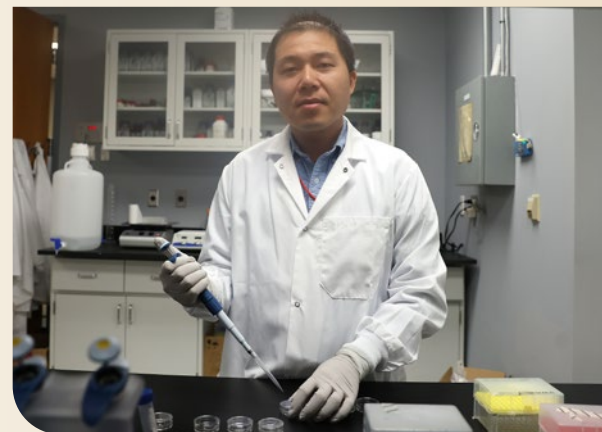
With a robust background in biophysical and biochemical research, Wang brings a wealth of expertise to Hoxworth Blood Center and is set to make significant contributions to the field of biomedical studies.

Wang's laboratory is dedicated to pioneering innovative biophysical and biochemical approaches to advance our understanding of vital biological processes. His current research is centered around the mechanobiology and enzymology of blood cells, with a particular focus on platelets, monocytes/macrophages, and neutrophils. He and his team are at the forefront of developing cutting-edge DNA-based biosensors that provide visualization and mapping of the forces and DNase activities generated by these cells. By investigating the physiological functions of cellular forces and membrane-bound DNases during hemostasis and innate immune responses, Wang's work promises to shed new light on critical aspects of human health.

Wang's academic journey includes serving as an Associate Professor at Iowa State University from January 2020 to July 2023, and as an Assistant Professor at the same institution from August 2015 to December 2019. His previous appointments also encompass a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he further honed his skills and insights from May 2010 to July 2015. He received his PhD from Purdue University in December 2009, following a Master's degree from Tsinghua University in July 2004, and a Bachelor's degree from the same institution in September 2001.

Wang's arrival marks a significant addition to Hoxworth Blood Center as he brings a depth of knowledge, an impressive research portfolio, and a dedication to advancing the boundaries of biomedical research. Hoxworth is excited to welcome Wang and looks forward to the invaluable contributions he will make to the institution's academic and research endeavors. ♦

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Xuefeng Wang, an internationally recognized expert in the analysis of single-molecule force through quantitative fluorescent biosensors, with immediate applicability to blood cell physiology and pathology," said José Cancelas, MD, PhD, Director, CEO, Hoxworth Blood Center. "We have huge expectations on his ability to convert his science in novel approaches to qualify and improve blood products and diagnosis, and treat diseases of the blood system."



2023 PUBLICATIONS

In addition to Hoxworth's vital roles in blood banking and transplant medicine for Tri-State local hospitals, Hoxworth is the home for world-renowned researchers and groundbreaking innovations.

Since its beginning in 1938 under the leadership of Dr. Paul I. Hoxworth, Hoxworth Blood Center has been dedicated to advancing the hemotherapy field. All Hoxworth divisions aim to bridge fundamental research with clinical care. Hoxworth is committed to enhancing the quality, safety and effectiveness of the blood and hematopoietic cell therapies. Hoxworth research includes clinical research, basic biological research and translational transfusion medicine and transplant research.

Hoxworth faculty and staff have published many prestigious, peer-reviewed, national and international journals. In 2023, Hoxworth Blood Center made notable contributions to the field. **Hoxworth authors are bolded below.**

Singh AK, Prasad P, **Cancelas JA**. Mesenchymal stromal cells, metabolism, and mitochondrial transfer in bone marrow normal and malignant hematopoiesis. *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*.

Vandenbroeke T, Gloor C, Wingfield T, Leite C, Carr K, Turner C, Ngamsuntikul S, Sutor L, Compton F, **Nestheide S, Rugg N, Cancelas JA**, Dumont LJ. In vitro quality parameters of whole blood-derived platelets pooled using two different platelet pooling sets and stored up to 7 days are similar. *Transfusion*.

Solomon M, Song B, Govindarajah V, Good S, Arasu A, Hinton EB, Thakkar K, Bartram J, Filippi MD, **Cancelas JA**, Salomonis N. Slow cycling and durable Flt3+ progenitors contribute to hematopoiesis under native conditions. *Journal of Experimental Medicine*.

Sarkar A, Niraula G, LeVine D, Zhao Y, Tu Y, Mollaeian K, Ren J, Que L, **Wang X**. Development of a Ratiometric Tension Sensor Exclusively Responding to Integrin Tension Magnitude in Live Cells. *ACS Sensors*.

Thant M, **Cancelas J**, Kaplan A. The enhanced direct antiglobulin test in current practice has a limited impact on management of adult patients. *Transfusion and Apheresis Science*.

Qian F, Nettleford SK, Zhou J, Arner BE, Hall MA, Sharma A, Annageldiyev C, Rossi RM, Tukaramrao DB, Sarkar D, **Hegde S**. Activation of GPR44 decreases severity of myeloid leukemia via specific targeting of leukemia initiating stem cells. *Cell Reports*.

Dandamudi A, Seibel W, Tourdot B, **Cancelas JA**, Akbar H, Zheng Y. Structure-Activity Relationship Analysis of Rhosin, a RhoA GTPase Inhibitor, Reveals a New Class of Antiplatelet Agents. *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.

Dandamudi A, Akbar H, **Cancelas J**, Zheng Y. Rho GTPase Signaling in Platelet Regulation and Implication for Antiplatelet Therapies. *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.

Galletta TJ, Lane A, **Lutzko C, Leemhuis T, Cancelas JA**, Khoury R, Wang YM, Hanley PJ, Keller MD, Bollard CM, Davies SM. Third-party and patient-specific donor-derived virus-specific T cells demonstrate similar efficacy and safety for management of viral infections after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in children and young adults. *Transplantation and Cellular Therapy*.

Menéndez-Gutiérrez MP, Porcuna J, **Nayak R**, Paredes A, Niu H, Núñez V, Paranjpe A, Gómez MJ, Bhattacharjee A, Schnell DJ, Sánchez-Cabo F. Retinoid X receptor promotes hematopoietic stem cell fitness and quiescence and preserves hematopoietic homeostasis. *Blood*.

Salazar RD, **Weidner KR, Alquist CR**. Therapeutic plasma exchange in refractory Susac's syndrome: A brief report. *Journal of Clinical Apheresis*.

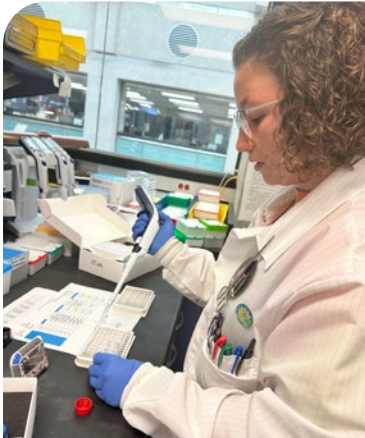
Connelly-Smith L, **Alquist CR**, Aqui NA, Hofmann JC, Klingel R, Onwuemene OA, Patriquin CJ, Pham HP, Sanchez AP, Schneiderman J, Witt V. Guidelines on the Use of therapeutic apheresis in clinical practice—Evidence-Based approach from the Writing Committee of the American Society for Apheresis: The Ninth Special Issue. *Journal of Clinical Apheresis*.

C Alquist and HC Sullivan. Chapter 18: Laboratory Management. In: HC Sullivan ed. *Transfusion Medicine Self-Assessment and Review*, 4th ed. AABB. Bethesda, MD: October 2023. Developed to be used with the *Technical Manual*, this popular resource helps trainees learn and review concepts in an examination format. This edition contains 900 brand-new multiple-choice questions covering 18 topics in blood collection/transfusion and biotherapies.

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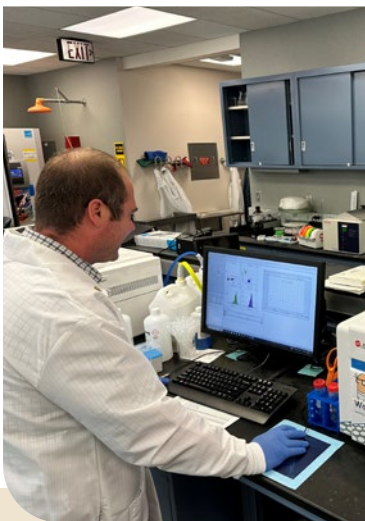
Transplantation Immunology Division



The Transplantation Immunology Division (TID) at University of Cincinnati's Hoxworth Blood Center is a state-of-the-art histocompatibility and immunogenetics testing laboratory.

The TID provides testing and consult services for regional transplant programs, transfusion medicine services, primary and specialist care, as well as clinical and basic research support.

In 2023, the TID helped **over 450 people** waiting for organ transplants to find their match:



392 KIDNEYS



58 HEARTS



9 PANCREATA



4 MULTI-VISCERA



1 LUNG

Dr. Alquist is a triple-boarded transfusion medicine and histocompatibility pathologist, uniquely invested in the intersection of transplant services and transfusion medicine. She serves as Hoxworth Blood Center's Chief Transplant & Cellular Therapies Officer, medical director of the mobile and fixed site Apheresis Program, division director for Cellular Therapies, and Cincinnati's only active ASHI-accredited HLA director for the Transplantation Immunology Division to support all regional solid organ transplant and cellular therapy operations.



For more information on becoming an organ donor, visit <https://lifepassiton.org>

Mission MOMENTS

85th anniversary celebration

Hoxworth Blood Center celebrated 85 years of Saving Lives Close to Home with Hoxworth leadership, staff, volunteers, and top lifetime donors at University of Cincinnati Nippert Stadium on December 3, 2023. They were also featured for their lifesaving contributions to the community at a UC Bearcats basketball game, as well as with a proclamation presentation by the City of Cincinnati.



Hoxworth rolled out new Individual Donor Assessment screening questionnaire



On December 4, 2023, Hoxworth Blood Center implemented the FDA approved Individual Donor Assessment screening questionnaire that allows Hoxworth to welcome new donors into the lifesaving mission, expand donor eligibility, and eliminate donation restrictions based on sexual orientation while continuing to prioritize the safety of the blood supply. This update was a milestone change in the blood banking industry and Hoxworth is excited to implement more inclusive policies and procedures that allow more people the opportunity to donate while simultaneously prioritizing the safety of the local blood supply.

Hoxworth received Natalia Marsh-Welton Spirit Award, presented by Make-A-Wish for collaboration on William's Wish

Hoxworth Blood Center was honored to be recognized with the 2023 Natalia Marsh-Welton Spirit Award, along with Wish kid William Davis and his family. The award was presented by Make-A-Wish, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, at the Prolink Southern Ohio Wish Gala in September.

Davis, an 18-year-old from Fairfield, Ohio, had been battling leukemia and partnered with Make-A-Wish and Hoxworth last year to grant his wish of holding a blood drive as a thank you to the community. William's Wish kicked off October 7, 2022, and more than 1,300 individuals have donated, potentially impacting 4,089 patients in the Tri-State.



Hoxworth VOLUNTEERS

*At the heart of the Hoxworth mission lies the invaluable contributions of our volunteers. Their dedication and support helps drive our daily operations forward, and in 2023, more than 100 Hoxworth volunteers gave more than 9,600 service hours toward **Saving Lives Close to Home.***

Our volunteers play a pivotal role in fulfilling many needs, from collecting blood donations at our Neighborhood Donor Center (NDC) locations and mobile blood drives to ensuring seamless transportation of blood products to our Component Laboratory for prompt processing. Through their efforts, blood products reach our hospital partners across the entirety of our Tri-State service area, making a tangible impact on countless lives.

In addition to their logistical support, volunteers enhance the donor experience at our NDCs and larger blood drives. Whether they're offering a friendly presence in café areas, expressing heartfelt gratitude to donors for their lifesaving contributions, or ensuring donors' well-being before they depart, our volunteers embody the spirit of service.

Throughout the greater Cincinnati community and beyond, our volunteers are ambassadors for the importance of blood donation at community events, spreading awareness and encouraging participation in this vital cause.

In every aspect of our operations, our volunteers are indispensable and embody the spirit of generosity and selflessness that defines our organization. We are immensely grateful for their dedication to Hoxworth.



The constant and continuous dedication of Hoxworth Blood Center Volunteers enables us as an organization to save valuable resources and allows us to focus on the needs of the donors and patients in our service area. We are beyond grateful to have such a strong team of volunteers."

- Jamie Glahn, Manager,
Hoxworth Volunteer Services



Hoxworth IN THE COMMUNITY

9TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING + FUNDRAISER

Hoxworth Blood Center, University of Cincinnati, held its 9th annual golf outing and fundraiser event on Thursday, September 14th, 2023, at Losantville Country Club to raise funds for a new donor bus to continue their lifesaving mission. The event was supported by 25 sponsors, 105 golfers, various Hoxworth staff & volunteers, making it a memorable day of celebrating saving lives close to home.

Deepest appreciation to the 2023 sponsors who made this event a reality — LifeCenter, United Courier, Jeff Wyler Automotive Group, Outdoor Networks, WCPO, Incept, RESLV, Morgan Stanley, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, Vista Consulting Group, BBCS, Center for Closing the Health Gap, Matthews Specialty Vehicles, Thermo Fisher Diagnostics, Adsplosure, Cincinnati Public Radio, Colleen O'Toole (Honoring LifeCenter), Daniel's Textile Rental, Everything Cincy, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and iHeart Media.

Several organizations generously donated prizes, gift baskets, gift certificates, and other items for our raffle and online silent auction. Participants were also gifted with a Hoxworth swag bag and treated to meals for the day by local Cincinnati Favorite restaurants Busken Bakery, Skyline Chili, and Montgomery Inn.

Hoxworth's annual fundraising event makes a significant impact towards its lifesaving mission, and whether you were a player, sponsor, volunteer, or supported from afar, the contributions are invaluable.



Hoxworth's Chief Medical Officer, David Oh, MD, takes you inside the world of blood banking with his *In The Know with Dr. Oh* podcast that covers all aspects of blood donation and transfusion medicine.

Tune in and learn about new advancements in the field of blood banking, get answers to frequently asked questions, and uncover the truths behind the most common myths about blood donation.

Dr. Oh and featured guest (pictured above) Liz Bonis, Local 12 Health Anchor & Medical Reporter talk about her special connection with blood donation, revealing the personal significance behind her commitment to this life-saving cause. Special thanks to our partners at UC 1819 Innovation Hub podcast studios and iHeart Media for their support.

Hoxworth

BLOOD CENTER

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WAYS TO MAKE AN **IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

- ✓ **Make a lifesaving blood donation.**
 - ✓ **Host a blood drive and save countless lives.**
 - ✓ **Volunteer to promote our lifesaving mission.**
 - ✓ **Make a financial donation to help fund a new lifesaving donor bus.**
-

LEARN MORE AT **HOXWORTH.ORG**