AfSBT
AFRICA SOCIETY FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSION
Société Africaine De Transfusion Sanguine
África Sociedade Para Transfusão De Sangue

ESTM
European School of Transfusion Medicine

Strengthening PLASMA COLLECTION for PLASMA-DERIVED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS IN AFRICA



16–17 JANUARY 2027

CAIRO, EGYPT

Venue: Hilton Grand Nile Tower,
16 Nile Corniche, Old Cairo - Egypt

TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER PLASMA ECOSYSTEM IN AFRICA

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FRAMEWORK

SEMINAR FRAMEWORK

Strengthening plasma collection for plasma-derived medicinal products in Africa

Cairo, Egypt · 16–17 January 2027

The Cairo seminar is conceived as a practical forum for dialogue between blood establishments, regulators, clinicians, patients, donors, industry and international organisations. Following the structure of the Bologna programme, the agenda moves from the needs of patients and demand, through plasma collection and regulatory requirements, to fractionation models, cooperation, sustainability and a final roadmap workshop.

Programme objectives

• Examine demand, clinical need and access to plasma-derived medicinal products in African settings.

• Explore sustainable national plasma collection systems, including plasmapheresis, recovered plasma and decentralised approaches.

• Clarify regulatory, quality and safety requirements for Plasma for Fractionation and supplier qualification.

• Compare fractionation models, contract manufacturing, regional hubs and opportunities for technology transfer.

• Bring together donor, patient, industry and public-sector perspectives on ethics, equity and sustainability.

• Translate the discussion into practical recommendations and a national/regional plasma roadmap.

Key thematic areas

Demand & access · Plasma collection systems · Plasma for fractionation · Quality & compliance · Fractionation models & regional hubs · Ethics, donors & patients · Financing & sustainability · National plasma roadmaps

DAY 1

DAY 1 · 16 JANUARY 2027

8.30 – 9.00
Registration & Welcome coffee

9.00 – 9.30
Welcome address and Introduction
ESTM · ESBS · AfSBT · WHO · other speakers TBC

SESSION 1 — Demand, patients and access

Moderators: Magdy El Ekiaby · Mohammed Farouk
Focus: Global demand, clinical need, equity, access, pricing and procurement

9.30 WHO perspective on essential plasma products
Mohamed Ramzy Ismail
25 min + 5 min Q&A

10.00 Immunoglobulin therapies in Africa: gaps, inequalities, pricing and procurement
speaker TBC
25 min + 5 min Q&A

10.30 Clotting factor therapies in Africa: gaps, inequalities, pricing and procurement
Assad Haffar
25 min + 5 min Q&A

11.00 Coffee break

SESSION 2 — Building national plasma collection systems

Moderators: Vincenzo De Angelis · Daniéle Sondag
Focus: Supply chain; plasmapheresis versus recovered plasma; mobile/decentralised collection; cost and efficiency

11.30 Lessons from the EU SUPPLY project on plasma collection
Fabio Candura
20 min

11.50 Building a sustainable plasma collection system in LMICs: South Africa and lessons learned
Jeh-Han Omarjee
20 min

12.10 Plasma collection in Egypt: status and perspectives
Ahmed Serag
20 min

12.30 Plasmapheresis versus recovered plasma: cost, yield and feasibility in African settings
Ravi Reddy
20 min

12.50 Panel discussion & Q&A
Panel
25 min

13.15 Light lunch

DAY 1

DAY 1 · 16 JANUARY 2027

SESSION 3 — Regulatory landscape for Plasma for Fractionation

Moderators: Moses Akampurira· Faten Moftah

Focus: Regulatory requirements and pathways for Plasma for Fractionation

14.15 AfSBT accreditation programme for Blood Establishments

Mohammed Farouk

25 min + 5 min Q&A

14.45 GMP/GPGs and regulatory compliance in Africa

Jens Reinhart

25 min + 5 min Q&A

15.15 Plasma Master File: supplier qualification & audits

Jeh-Han Omarjee

25 min + 5 min Q&A

15.45 Coffee break

SESSION 3 — Quality & safety

Moderators: Israel Chipare · Ravi Reddy

Focus: Quality systems, industrial processing and infection-risk management

16.15 Industrial fractionation overview & yield optimisation drivers

Leni von Bonsdorff

30 min

16.45 Blood-borne infections: screening strategies in LMICs

Claude Tayou

30 min

17.15 Q&A, Wrap-up

Session chairs, Panel

15 min

17.30 · End of Day 1

DAY 2

DAY 2 · 17 JANUARY 2027

SESSION 4 — Fractionation models & regional hubs for Africa

Moderators: Moses Akampurira, Vincenzo De Angelis

Focus: Contract manufacturing, partnerships, shared capacity and regional approaches

Block A — Frameworks

8.30 Role of the public sector in plasma fractionation

Leni von Bonsdorff

20 min

8.50 Contract fractionation: the European experience & regulatory framework

Fabio Candura

20 min

9.10 Panel discussion, Q&A

Panel, Session chairs

5 min

Block B — African case studies

9.15 South Africa & Namibia

Jeh-Han Omarjee

15 min

9.30 Egypt

Ahmed Serag

15 min

9.45 Uganda

Susan Elaborot

15 min

10.00 Panel discussion, Q&A

Panel, Session chairs

15 min

10.15 Coffee break

PANEL — Industry & cooperation

Moderators: Chair TBC

Focus: Role of companies in developing plasma collection, fractionation capacity and technology transfer in LMICs

10.45 Industry perspectives and discussion

Grifols · CSL Behring · Kedrion · NBI · Takeda (to be invited)

60 min

ROUND TABLE — Ethics, donors and sustainability

Moderators: President FIODS (TBC) · co-chair TBC

Focus: Donor protection, patient equity, voluntary non-remunerated donation and the role of stakeholder organisations

11.45 Promotion of voluntary non-remunerated donation in plasma collection

Roland Niyibizi

12.05 Donor protection & patient equity

Lorenzo Montrasio · Jean Baptiste Thibert

12.25 Patients' organisations and donors' organisations: complementary roles

Assad Haffar · IPOPI · Karin Magnussen

12.45 Introduction to interactive workshop

Massimo La Raja · Fabio Candura

30 min

13.15 Light lunch

WORKSHOP

DAY 2 · 17 JANUARY 2027

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

Designing a national plasma roadmap for LMICs

14.15 – 16.15 · Facilitated working session

The workshop translates the seminar discussions into a structured roadmap. Participants will work around four interconnected dimensions:

• Plasma collection: targets, donor base, infrastructure, workforce and supply-chain design.

• Regulatory harmonisation: standards, accreditation, Plasma Master File, supplier qualification and oversight.

• Financing & sustainability: investment, operating costs, procurement, contract fractionation and regional cooperation.

• Implementation: priorities, responsibilities, milestones, indicators and mechanisms for review.

Proposed working sequence

14.15 1 · Situation analysis and priority gaps
Facilitators
30 min

14.45 2 · Defining the national plasma pathway
Working groups
30 min

15.15 3 · Regulatory, financing and partnership options
Working groups
30 min

15.45 4 · Consolidation of recommendations
All participants
30 min

16.15 Conclusions & recommendations
Seminar chairs / organisers
15 min

16.30 · Closing of the Seminar

SPEAKERS & CHAIRS

Moses Akampurira
Senior Regulatory Officer, National Drug Authority, Kampala, Uganda

Leni von Bonsdorff
President, International Plasma and Fractionation Association (IPFA), Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Fabio Candura
Director, Plasma and PDMPs Area, Centro Nazionale Sangue (CNS) – Rome, Italy

Vincenzo De Angelis
President, European School of Transfusion Medicine (ESTM), Milano, Italy

Susan Elaborot
Uganda Blood Transfusion Service, Uganda

Magdy El-Ekiaby
Head of Blood Transfusion & Hemophilia Centre, Shabrawishi Hospital

Mohammed Farouk
President, Africa Society of Blood Transfusion

Assad E. Haffar
Humanitarian Aid and Medical Training Director, World Federation of Hemophilia

Mohamed Ramzy Ismail
Team Lead, Medicines, Diagnostics, Infrastructure and Health Technologies Unit, at World Health Organization, Regional Office for Africa

Israel Chipare
Chief Executive Officer, The Blood Transfusion Service of Namibia

Massimo La Raja
Director, Transfusion Medicine Dept, Trieste University Hospital, Italy

Karin Magnussen
Chairperson Medical Counsellors Group, IFBDO/FIODS

Faten Moftah
Past-President, Africa Society of Blood Transfusion

Lorenzo Montrasio
Italian Delegate to the Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health, Council of Europe

Roland Niyibizi
Techical Officer for Blood safety, Organ and Tissue transplants at World Health Organization, Regional Office for Africa

Jeh-Han Omarjee
Head, Biotechnology Product Development, at NBI, Pinetown, South-Africa

Ravi Reddy
Chief Executive Officer, South African National Blood Service, South-Africa

Jens Reinhart
Division of Haematology, Cell and Gene Therapy, Head GHPP BloodTrain, Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI), Germany

Ahmed Serag
Chief Strategy & Operations Officer, Grifols Egypt for Plasma Derivatives

Daniéle Sondag
Vice-President, European School of Transfusion Medicine (ESTM), Milano, Italy

Claude Tayou
Medical and Technical Director - National Blood Transfusion Service, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Jean Baptiste Thibert
Medical and Biology director EFS Bretagne, Rennes, France

Title

Strengthening plasma collection for plasma-derived medicinal products in Africa

Date

16–17 January 2027

Location

Hilton Grand Nile Tower, 16 Nile Corniche, Old Cairo – Egypt

Organising partners

Egyptian Society of Blood Services (ESBS) · Africa Society for Blood Transfusion (AfSBT) · European School of Transfusion Medicine (ESTM)

Format

Two-day scientific seminar with plenary sessions, panels, round table and interactive workshop.

Target audience

Blood establishments and transfusion services; regulators and public authorities; clinicians and scientific societies; patient and donor organisations; plasma fractionation and pharmaceutical industry; international organisations and development partners.