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MEMORANDUM

To: ACTG PBMC Processing Laboratories

From: Grace Aldrovandi, MD, CM baldwandi

Date: 7Feb2025

Subject: Temporary Delay in Implementation of New criteria for Viable PBMC

New criteria were proposed last year to ensure the highest quality of viable PBMC and harmonize requirements across DAIDS networks. However, after careful consideration, we have decided to delay the implementation of these requirements until the June submission to the IQA. This decision is intended to provide additional time for laboratories to collaborate with LC and IQA to further optimize their PBMC processing practices.

We encourage you to use this opportunity to submit samples from two independent PBMC processors for the current qualification round, if staffing allows, as this will help us identify individuals who may need additional support in the coming months.

We appreciate the laboratories' continued efforts in refining their PBMC processing and encourage those needing help to engage with LC and IQA during this period.

Please reach out to LC or IQA with any questions or for additional guidance at LC.IQA.PBMCquestions@fstrf.org.