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Blood Systems Research Institute launches Denver campus, welcomes Dr. Larry J. Dumont as Senior Investigator and Associate Director

Blood Systems Research Institute, internationally respected for its work to advance blood safety worldwide, announced today that it is establishing a campus in Denver on the grounds of Bonfils Blood Center to focus on the development of blood products and transfusion methodologies specifically designed to improve patient care.

BSRI is a division of Blood Systems, one of the nation's oldest and largest non-profit transfusion medicine organizations. Bonfils Blood Center is an affiliate of Blood Systems.

Noted researcher Larry J. Dumont, M.B.A., Ph.D., will oversee the campus as a Senior Investigator and Associate Director of BSRI. He joins BSRI from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, where he has directed the Center for Transfusion Medicine Research since 2006.

"Under Larry's direction, BSRI-Denver will be an important participant and contributor in the development and evaluation of new methods, devices and biological products in transfusion medicine," said Michael Busch, M.D., Ph.D., Blood Systems Senior Vice President for Research and Scientific Programs and BSRI Co-Director. "BSRI has a strong reputation for innovative scientific research and policy development, built over more than half a century. The Denver initiative, with Larry's leadership and Bonfils' exceptional facilities, brings BSRI squarely into the development arena of R&D with the practical application of scientific knowledge to make a real difference in the lives of patients who receive transfusions."

Dr. Dumont brings to BSRI-Denver the important program to develop licensable platelet cryopreservation techniques under the sponsorship of the United States Army. This program, currently in Phase 1 clinical trials, is expected to extend the 5-day shelf life of platelets to more than 2 years.

"A significantly longer shelf life for this critical blood product will offer important availability in military deployments," Dr. Dumont said. "And in such civilian medical settings as trauma and surgical care, greater platelet availability will help save lives."

"Bonfils Blood Center is excited to open its facilities and welcome BSRI-Denver," Bonfils Blood Center President and CEO Bryan Krueger said. "Dr. Dumont's research promises to expand the ability for Bonfils and blood centers all over the country to save and enhance patients' lives. This is yet another example of the great partnership Bonfils Blood Center has with Blood Systems."

Along with cryopreservation of platelets, Dr. Dumont's current interests are in platelet and red blood cell physiology, in vivo radiolabeled cell kinetics, and clinical outcomes in transfusion medicine. He will continue to work with current collaborators at the University of Colorado Denver-Anschutz Medical Campus on translational investigations to understand the biochemical and cellular changes

that affect red blood cells for transfusion during storage and other questions related to adverse clinical outcomes.

Dr. Dumont received a bachelor's degree in biology from Regis College, an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix and a doctorate in clinical sciences from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver. Prior to his work at Dartmouth, he was a scientist and engineer in medical device manufacturing at Denver-based Gambro BCT (formerly COBE Laboratories, currently Terumo BCT) for some 25 years. Dr. Dumont is the immediate past chair of BEST, the international Biomedical Excellence for Safer Transfusion Collaborative.

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About Blood Systems Research Institute:

Blood Systems Research Institute generates and analyzes data to aid the US and worldwide transfusion community by recommending testing strategies and technology. It is a division of Blood Systems. More at www.bsrisf.org

About Blood Systems

Blood Systems is one of the nation's oldest and largest non-profit blood service providers. Its Blood Centers Division (Blood Centers of the Pacific, BloodSource, Bonfils Blood Center, Community Blood Services, Inland Northwest Blood Center, Lifeblood, LifeShare, LifeStream and United Blood Services) provides blood, blood components and special services to patients in more than 700 hospitals in 24 states. Creative Testing Solutions, a co-owned venture with OneBlood, the Institute for Transfusion Medicine and Bloodworks Northwest, is the largest independent blood donor testing organization in the country, and tests approximately 33 percent of the United States blood supply at three high volume laboratories in Dallas, Phoenix and Tampa. The BioCARE division distributes therapeutic biologicals and recombinant coagulation factors, including such products as albumin, coagulation factors, fibrin sealants, IVIG, and Rh immune globulin. More at www.BloodSystems.org

About Bonfils Blood Center:

For more than 70 years Bonfils Blood Center has held a presence as one of Colorado's top nonprofit healthcare organizations. We're proud to have become a trusted community resource and source of hope for those in their time of need as well as an outlet for our neighbors wanting to give back through blood, marrow and financial donations. In order to meet the needs of more than 100 healthcare facilities we serve and to be prepared for unexpected events. Bonfils must collect more than 3,000 blood donations each week. For information about Bonfils Blood Center please call 303.366.2000 or visit www.bonfils.org or look for us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.