



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I gave blood this afternoon, something I do a few times a year, but this time they asked me to give red blood cells only instead of whole blood. The blood center has a new, automated system called ALYX. It sucks your blood into a centrifuge, spins out the red cells and pumps the rest and some saline back through the same needle.



Here's how the manufacturer describes it:

The ALYX system allows for more efficient processing of blood components over manual methods by combining collection, component separation and leukoreduction (which removes white blood cells from blood components), into a single, integrated process. White blood cells have been associated with the transmission of certain infectious diseases and the development of immune reactions in transfusion recipients.

Features:

- Intelligent Flow Control software assists operators in achieving optimum flow rates, helping to improve completion rates.
- Intuitive touch-screen controls and friendly visual indicators alert operators and provide easy access to procedural histories.
- Integrated single-use kits with attached solutions and filter allows for simplified loading, easy operation, and fast, efficient collections.

Benefits:

- Optimize donor potential with multiple component collection options.
- Simplify operations to achieve your production goals.
- Reduce demands on staff resources by producing test-ready components at donor's chair-side.
- Realize more value from each donation with automatic leukoreduction.

Sounds like the same issues you face in your dental office. Digital Radiography to save time. Touch displays to improve productivity. Computers in the treatment rooms to increase patient acceptance. Improved doctor to doctor communication to save time and provide a better patient experience.

To learn more about donating blood contact your local blood center or in northern California log on to <http://www.bloodcenters.org>

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