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## **So-Yong Kwon**

*Korean Red Cross, Korea*

So-Yong Kwon, M.D., Ph.D. joined the Korean Red Cross (KRC) in 1988 and during her years at the Blood Transfusion Research Institute of the KRC, she played a pivotal role in establishing the donor deferral registry, the HLA-matched platelet donor registry, the rare donor registry and the implementation of HTLV screening in Korea. As the Director of the Safety Bureau at the KRC Blood Service Headquarters in 2012, she was responsible for introducing HBV NAT and individual NAT testing. Currently, she is the Director of the Jungbu Blood Laboratory Blood Center of the KRC.

Dr. Kwon has received numerous research grants from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety and the Korea Centers for Disease Control & Prevention which have contributed to enhancing safety management of the blood system in Korea.

Dr. Kwon is the Director for Scientific Affairs of the Korean Society of Blood Transfusion (KSBT), member of the Blood Transfusion Committee of the Korean Society of Clinical Pathologists (KSCP), and member of the Diagnostic Immunology Committee of the KSCP.

She is the current Vice President of the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) and a member of the ISBT working party for Transfusion Transmitted Infectious Diseases (TTID). She was the past Vice Chair of the Asia Pacific Blood Network (APBN) and she has served as an expert in the Global Consultation on Haemovigilance of WHO and was a member of the WHO working group for establishing the guide about national haemovigilance system.