What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for collecting a blood component through apheresis, the method comprising:

drawing whole blood into a centrifuge from a donor;

spinning the centrifuge to cause centrifugal force to act on the whole blood to separate the whole blood into a least a first blood component and a third blood component;

separating a first blood component from the whole blood;

extracting the first blood component into a container;

detecting when a second blood component is being extracted; and

after the second blood component is detected and while the centrifuge continues to spin, forcing the separated first blood component back towards the centrifuge to move at least the third blood component from the centrifuge and back into the donor.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first blood component is one or more of plasma, platelets, red blood cells and/or high hematocrit blood.

3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the second blood component is one or more of plasma, platelets, red blood cells and/or high hematocrit blood and the third blood component is one or more of plasma, platelets, red blood cells and/or high hematocrit blood.

4. The method of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the first blood component is two or more of plasma, platelets, red blood cells and/or high hematocrit blood.

5. The method of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the centrifuge spins at a first speed when separating the first blood component from the whole blood.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the centrifuge continues to spin at the first speed when forcing the separated first blood component back towards the centrifuge.

7. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the centrifuge spins at a second speed when drawing whole blood into the centrifuge from the donor.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the second speed is slower than the first speed.

9. The method of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the first blood component is separated from the whole blood in a blood component collection set that is inserted into the centrifuge.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the centrifuge includes a filler that spins a blood component collection bladder associated with the blood component collection set.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the blood component collection bladder is inserted into a collection insert channel formed in the filler to hold the blood component collection bladder.

12. An apheresis system comprising:

a first tube having a lumen, fluidly associated with the needle, that moves whole blood from a donor through the lumen;

a draw pump engaged with the first tube that draws the whole blood into a centrifuge;

the centrifuge that spins to cause centrifugal force to act on the whole blood to separate the whole blood into a least a first blood component and a third blood component;

a blood component collection bladder, inserted into the centrifuge and fluidly associated with the first tube, that separates the first blood component from the whole blood;

a second tube, fluidly associated the blood collection bladder, that moves the first blood component from the blood component collection bladder;

a collection container, fluidly associated with the second tube, that extracts the first blood component from the apheresis system;

a sensor positioned in physical proximity to the second tube to detect when a second blood component is being extracted from the whole blood; and

after the second blood component is detected by the sensor and while the centrifuge continues to spin, a return pump, engaged with the second tube, that forces the separated first blood component back towards the blood component collection bladder through the second tube to move at least the third blood component from the blood component collection bladder and back into the donor.

13. The apheresis system of claim 12, wherein the first blood component is plasma and the second blood component is platelets, red blood cells, and/or high hematocrit blood.

14. The apheresis system of claim 12 or claim 13, further comprising an anticoagulant pump to draw anticoagulant from an anticoagulant bag and mix the anticoagulant with whole blood at a manifold or junction fluidly associated with the first tube.

15. The apheresis system of any one of claims 12-14, wherein the centrifuge includes a filler that spins the blood component collection bladder.

16. The apheresis system of claim 15, wherein the blood component collection bladder is inserted into a collection insert channel formed in the filler to hold the blood component collection bladder.

17. A blood component collection set associated with an apheresis system comprising:

a needle inserted into a blood vessel of a donor to draw whole blood from a donor;

a first tube having a lumen, fluidly associated with the needle, that moves the whole blood through the lumen, wherein a draw pump engaged with the first tube draws the whole blood from the donor;

a blood component collection bladder, inserted into a centrifuge and fluidly associated with the first tube, that separates the first blood component and a third blood component from the whole blood;

a second tube, fluidly associated with the blood collection bladder, that moves the first blood component from the blood component collection bladder; and

a collection container fluidly associated with the second tube that extracts the first blood component from the apheresis system, wherein a sensor is positioned in physical proximity to the second tube to detect when a second blood component is being extracted from the whole blood; and wherein, after the second blood component is detected by the sensor and while the centrifuge continues to spin, a return pump engaged with the second tube forces the separated first blood component back towards the blood component collection bladder through the second tube to move at least the third blood component from the blood component collection bladder and back into the donor.

18. The blood component collection set of claim 17, wherein the first blood component is plasma and the second blood component is platelets.

19. The blood component collection set of claim 17 or claim 18, wherein the draw pump is disengaged when the return pump forces the separated first blood component back towards the blood component collection bladder through the second tube to move at least the third blood component from the blood component collection bladder and back into the donor.

20. The blood component collection set of any one of claims 17-19, wherein the blood component collection bladder is inserted and held in a filler, in the centrifuge, that spins the blood component collection bladder.