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EMERGENCY RELEASE OF BLOOD PRODUCTS – UNKNOWN PATIENT

☒ **St. Joseph Medical Center, Tacoma, WA**	☒ **St. Anthony Hospital Gig Harbor, WA**	☐ **Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton, WA**
☒ **St. Francis Hospital, Federal Way, WA**	☒ **St. Elizabeth Hospital Enumclaw, WA**	☐ **Harrison Medical Center, Silverdale, WA**
☒ **St. Clare Hospital Lakewood, WA**	☐ **Highline Medical Center Burien, WA**	☐ **PSC**

PURPOSE

To describe the method for emergency release of blood components to a person with no identification. This situation will be extremely rare as our Trauma department is quick to give out trauma names for unknown individuals. ***This procedure should be used only as a last resort – and likely during a Code Triage***.

BACKGROUND

There are situations in which delay in providing blood may jeopardize the patient. When RBCs are urgently needed, and the physician has made the decision that the risk of delaying transfusion outweighs the risk of transfusing uncrossmatched blood, Emergency Released blood is provided. The patient's record must contain a signed statement of the requesting physician indicating that the clinical situation was sufficiently urgent to require release of uncrossmatched blood. Please note that Thawed Plasma, Platelets, and Cryo can also be emergency released.

When using this emergency issue procedure, **the units must NOT be reserved or crossmatched to the patient.**
- FFP and/or Pooled Cryo must be batch thawed and label-verified <u>before</u> they can be emergency issued.
- Prepare an Emergency Release Form to go with any RBCs to the patient location. Not needed for FFP, Cryo, or Platelets

An unknown patient is defined as a patient that <u>does not exist</u> in SafeTrace Tx.

Components: Acceptable Blood Types for Emergency Release:

- RBCs – O Pos for males ≥ 16 yrs & females ≥ 50 yrs
- RBCs – O Neg for males < 16 yrs & females < 50 yrs
- Platelets – any blood type.
  - <u>Note</u>: If Rh Pos platelets are given to an Rh Neg woman of child-bearing years due to the unavailability of Rh Neg platelets, the patient must receive one vial of RhIG after hemorrhaging has been controlled. One vial will compensate for 7 platelets
- Cryoprecipitate – any blood type. Rh does not matter
- FFP – AB plasma

RELATED DOCUMENTS

R-PO-TS-0300	Blood Component Selection Policy
M-W-TS-0105	Patient History Check
M-PO-TS-0347	Emergency Release Policy
M-W-TS-0311	Emergency Release of Blood Products – Known Patient
M-F-TS-1020	Emergency Blood Transport Log
M-W-TS-0304	Blood Bank Transport Containers
M-W-TS-0338	Batch Thaw of FFP for Inventory

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STEPS TO ISSUE BLOOD PRODUCTS

1. From the **Patient/Order Module**, select **Product > Emergency Issue > Unknown**. The Emergency Product Issue- Unknown Patient window opens.

2. Manually enter the trauma name or alias from the pickup slip or from verbal information given over the phone.

3. Enter the gender, date of birth, and MRN as they read from the pickup slip or from information given over the phone.

4. Enter required information including Service Provider:
    - Use SJMC as provider when issuing RBCs
    - Use your facility – example SEH – for plasma products

5. Issue Location is your facility

6. In the "Released To" field:
    - Type in your tech ID.
    - Then patient location (room #)
    - Then transporter's initials.
    - Example: A25/8C4/JA

    Note: The Issue date and time is defaulted to the current date and time. These values can be modified if necessary.

7. Barcode scan the unit number and the product code.

8. Visually inspect the component. If OK, click to check the Visual Inspection OK check box.
    Note: Enter the cooler number in the Container ID box if the products are being issued in a cooler.

9. Click **Accept** to add the component information to the **Products to Issue Grid**.

10. Repeat steps 7-9 for additional units.

11. Click **OK** to save and print P-Tags and close the window.

12. Informational message, "You have successfully issued products(s)!" displays.
    - Click OK to close the window.
    - The status of the component updates to 'Issued.'
    - The **I**ssue button activates (turns red) on the Patient-At-A-Glance Bar.

13. An order is automatically generated in the system for the component issued.

14. Adhere P-Tag to the reverse side of the unit and initial it.

STEPS TO UPDATE THE UNKNOWN PATIENT PROFILE – SJMC Task

1. Open the Patient/Order Module

2. Select: **File > Open > Patient** to open the unknown patient profile. The Open Patient window opens

3. Enter the trauma or alias name. Click **Query**

4. **Double click the unknown patient row**. The patient Profile window for the unknown patient opens.

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5. Note that at the top of the screen, the patient **status is E = Emergency**. The Patient Profile window for unknown patients also allows for more changes than a profile for a known patient.
6. Select the appropriate boxed data fields to backspace over the old information and type in the updated patient information for the following items:
   - Name
   - Gender
   - DOB
   - MRN
   - Account #

7. Select any other boxed date filed and enter any optional information

8. When finished, click **Save** and **close**.

REFERENCES

AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, current edition

AABB Technical Manual, current edition