#### Performing Pre-transfusion Testing for Neonates

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| Purpose | To provide instructions regarding transfusion testing to be performed for neonates initial workup or subsequent workup.  |

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| Definition | Neonate: A neonate is an infant that is less than 4 months old. |

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| Policy | * The initial blood banded specimen may used for a neonate until one of the following occurs; at which time the 3 day rule will then apply.
* The infant is 4 months old
* The neonate is discharged
* No serum is remaining
* Type A, B or AB neonate is switched from type O to type specific blood
* Type AB neonate is switched from:
* Type A to B or AB blood
* Type B to A or AB blood
* A 7 day rule will apply when the neonate’s antibody screen is positive and/or the DAT and Elution are positive and antigen negative units are not available.
* Antigen negative or antiglobulin crossmatched units will be provided until the antibody is no longer present.
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| Specimen Requirements | * Blood ID Banded
* 2-3 ml (1.5 ml minimum) EDTA

NOTE: Cord blood specimens will not be used for transfusion testing. |

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| Testing a Neonate Specimen | Follow the steps below to complete required testing on the initial or subsequent neonate specimen.

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| Step | Action |
| 1 | Ensure an order for an “INWU” under the neonate’s medical record number has been entered. |
| 2 | Access the test grid in BOP and enter results for each required test listed in the following steps once they are completed. |
| 3 | Perform a history check for the baby and the mother, if available. |

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Performing Pre-transfusion Testing for Neonates for Neonates, Continued

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| Testing a Neonate Specimen (continued) |

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| Step | Action |
| 4 | Perform an ABORh on the neonate’s specimen. |
| 5 | Perform a Capture antibody screen.

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| If… | Then… |
| Initial Specimen | * If positive, follow up with Capture ID panel
* If mother has known antibody specificity and small amount of baby plasma is available, Peg selected cells may be used to identify the antibody in the baby’s plasma.
* All clinically significant antibodies must be ruled out using the neonate’s current specimen
* Result ABID with free text ” Date, Maternal Anti-X “.
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| Subsequent Specimen | * Perform if the neonate’s initial antibody screen or DAT were positive

AND* ≥ 2 months have passed since first tested

NOTE: If antibody screen testing is not performed then result the “AS” (Antibody screen) test as either POS or NEG based on the initial specimen antibody screen test results. |

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| 6 | Perform a tube DAT-IgG test in the following circumstances:* DAT has not been tested during the current admission
* DAT was previously positive and an elution has not been performed
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| 7 | Perform an elution if the tube DAT is positive. |
| 8 | Perform antigen typing for antigens corresponding to maternal antibodies, if commercial antisera is available. |

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| Testing a Neonate Specimen (continued) |

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| 9 | Enter the following additional required information in the laboratory computer system:* Armband Number (RN) – Blood ID Band Number
* Units Ordered (UO) – enter number requested or HIDE
* Crossmatch Expiration Date –
* Date the neonate will be 4 months old

OR* 7 days from specimen draw date if antibody screen is positive and AHG crossmatch is required
* Any special requirements for the blood products
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| 10 | Click “Save” and refer to “Determining Compatibility for Neonates” if blood has been requested. |

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