LAB UPDATE

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective Immediately

REGULATORY CHANGE REMINDER FOR TRANSFUSION

As previously released in July 2016, the laboratory requires a second ABO type for patients without a historical type prior to the issue of blood components for transfusion. This change was implemented to follow the College of American Pathologists regulation TRM.30575, Misidentification Risk. The regulation states: *"The facility has a system to reduce the risk of mistransfusion for non-emergent red cell transfusions. Mistransfusion occurs from misidentification of the intended recipient at the time of collection of the pretransfusion testing samples, during laboratory testing and preparation of the units to be issued, and at the time of transfusion. Misidentification at sample collection occurs approximately once in every 1,000 samples, and in one in every 12,000 transfusions the recipient receives a unit not intended for or not properly selected for him/her. The laboratory is expected to have implemented a plan to reduce these risks through implementation of a risk-reduction system."*

On 04/01/18, the 31st edition of the American Association of Blood Standards will also be updated to require two determinations of the recipients ABO group for pretransfusion testing.

Need to know:

- The secondary specimen must be collected at a different draw as the routine blood bank specimen.
- If a secondary specimen is not received for patients without a historical ABO type prior to request for blood components, group O will be issued.
- Emergency release of blood products remains an option for urgent critical situations.
- A reminder, some facilities are charged a surcharge by their contacted blood supplier for excess group O usage.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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