**Purpose**: To provide a technique to resolve ABO discrepancies due to rouleaux formation. Patient serum with altered protein proportions, abnormal proteins or high concentrations of fibrin may cause rouleaux formation that resembles true agglutination.

**Procedure:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Step** | **Action** | | **Related Documents Title** |
| **1.** | * Confirm sample for acceptability per established procedures. | |  |
| **2.** | * Repeat ABO/Rh manual tube method if not already done. | | * ABO/D by Tube Method |
| **3.** | * If ABO discrepancy is not resolved, proceed to step 4. | |  |
| **4.** | * Centrifuge the tubes containing patient serum. Do not resuspend the cells. | |  |
| **5.** | * Use a disposable transfer pipet to draw the supernatant serum and discard. | |  |
| **6.** | * Add two drops of **0.85%** saline to each tube. | |  |
| **7.** | * Gently resuspend and observe macroscopically for agglutination. | |  |
| **8.** | * Grade and record results. | | * Reading and Grading Tube Hemagglutination Reactions |
| **9.** | **Interpret results as follows:** | | * ABO Discrepancy Resolution |
| * No agglutination | * Rouleaux formation |
| * Agglutination | * True agglutination not due to rouleaux |
| **10.** | * If discrepancy resolved by saline replacement technique, result ABO/Rh and place BBC in the BAD file | |  |

**References:**

AABB Technical Manual, Current Edition.