**Purpose**

To provide instruction for ordering, receiving and usage of low titer group O Whole Blood for use in transfusion services laboratory.

**Policy**

Low titer group O Whole Blood will be received and used by Harborview Medical Center Transfusion Services primarily for trauma and massive transfusion response in place of individual units of red blood cells and plasma. Bloodworks Northwest will test group O whole blood collected from male donors for Anti-A and Anti-B high titers >1:150. American Red Cross will test for Anti-A and Anti-B titers >1:200. Whole blood units that test as negative will be labeled as “No High Titer Antibody to A and/or B antigens Detected”.

**Indications**

* Treatment of patients undergoing massive transfusion due to life threatening trauma/hemorrhages.

**Contraindications**

* Limit transfusion to 20 units to patients with unknown blood type, if possible.
* Subsequent transfusion of whole blood to a non-group compatible patient or unknown blood group (beyond initial 20 units) should be performed after consultation with the TSL Lead, Manager, and/or Medical Director.
* Any evidence of hemolysis is to be immediately investigated and reported to the Medical Director or Resident/Covering Physician.

**Procedure**

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| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| 1 | Group O whole blood will be shipped as a standing order.   * Order Distribution Report will include statement of Low Titer whole blood. * Units will come tagged with a “No high titer antibody to A and/or B antigens detected” sticker. | Inventory Management Policy |
| 2 | Perform Blood Product Entry upon arrival at TSL:   * Perform visual inspection * Click on Ag/Ab/Attributes tab * In box for “Antigen/Antibody”, add ***LTWB*** which will translate to Low Titer Whole Blood * Pull segments * Place unit on unprocessed shelf to await unit retype | Visual inspection of Red Cell Products  Receiving Blood Products into Inventory  Blood Product Entry in Sunquest |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| 3 | Perform unit confirmation | Unit type Confirmation Using Tube Method  TANGO Infinity – Sample Requirements and Preparation |
| 4 | Once unit retyping is complete, tag units and create a trauma pack with 2-3 units.  Ensure appropriate number of units are set aside and tagged for Medic One use.   * One blue “Received O Positive Whole Blood” armband and one Whole Blood Follow Up form must be included per Medic One unit   Note: Avoid placing Rh positive and Rh negative units in the same trauma pack | Transfusion Tags for Emergency Release of Blood Products  Stock Trauma Pack Maintenance  Medic One |
| 5 | Store in designated area for whole blood | Blood Product Storage Policy |
| 6 | **Blood Order Processing:**   * Allocate per policy * Allocation of Rh incompatible will require overrides. | SQ Blood Order Processing  Compatibility Process  Emergency Release Blood Product Allocation |
| 7 | **Blood Product Issue**   * Process per SOP | SQ Blood Product Issue |

References

Circular of Information for the Use of Human Blood and Blood Components, Current Edition.

AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, Current Edition.