



Policy Name: ABO/Rh by Tube

Department: Blood Bank-Lab

Departmental Review:

Policy #:B1.0/B1.1

INITIATE DATE
06/2008

DATE REVIEWED/REVISED
07/2013

PAGE 1 of 4

PURPOSE:

Forward grouping is designed to demonstrate the presence of the ABO and Rh blood group antigens (A,B,and/or D) by testing the red cells with known antisera (Anti-A, Anti-B, and Anti-D). ABO reverse grouping is designed to demonstrate the presence of the expected ABO blood group antibodies (Anti-A or Anti-B) by testing the serum or plasma with known cells (A₁ and B cells). Infants normally do not begin to produce anti-A or anti-B until 3-6 months of age reverse grouping is not required on infants less than 4 months of age.

The presence/absence of A, B and D antigens can be detected by tube or gel microtube method. Agglutination indicates the presence of antigen/antibody reaction while lack of agglutination indicates the absence of antigen/antibody reaction.

SPECIMEN:

No special preparation of the patient is required prior to specimen collection. Blood should be collected by approved techniques.

REAGENTS:

1. Anti-A
2. Anti-B
3. Anti-D
4. Gamma Control
5. Normal Saline
6. A₁ Cells
7. B Cells

Do not use beyond expiration date. Store reagents at 2-8°C. Bring reagents to room temperature (18-25°C) prior to use.

QUALITY CONTROL:

To recognize reagent deterioration, the reagents must be tested daily with appropriate controls.

PROCEDURE:

1. Prepare a 3-5% suspension of patient red blood cells in a clean 12 x 75 test tube.
2. Label six clean tubes with patient identification and respectively A, B, D, Ctrl, A cell, B cell
3. Add one drop of Anti-A, one drop of Anti-B, one drop of Anti-D and one drop of Gamma Control to the appropriately labeled tubes.
4. Add one drop of A₁ cells and one drop of B cells to the appropriately labeled tubes.
5. Add two drops of patient serum or plasma to the tubes containing the A₁ and B cells.
6. Add one drop of the patient's 3-5% cell suspension to the tubes containing Anti-A, Anti-B, Anti-D and Ctrl.
7. Gently mix all tubes and centrifuge in a calibrated centrifuge.
8. For each tube, gently dislodge cell button and inspect for macroscopic agglutination using the optical aid.



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PAGE 2 of 4

- Record reactions immediately after reading each tube.

REPORTING RESULTS:

- See Reading and Interpretation of Agglutination Reactions.
- Agglutination of red cells is a positive result.
- No agglutination of red cells is a negative test result.
- The test cannot be interpreted if a positive result occurs in the control tube.
- Interpretation:

Forward Grouping		Rh Typing		Reverse Grouping		Interpretation
Anti-A	Anti-B	Anti-D	Control	A Cells	B Cells	
+	=	+	=	=	+	A Positive
=	+	+	=	+	=	B Positive
+	+	+	=	=	=	AB Positive
=	=	+	=	+	+	O Positive
+	=	=	=	=	+	A Negative
=	+	=	=	+	=	B Negative
+	+	=	=	=	=	AB Negative
=	=	=	=	+	+	O Negative

PROCEDURE NOTES:

- Serum grouping tests performed in conjunction with cell grouping should always agree. Discrepancies between reverse and forward grouping should be resolved before interpretation of the blood group.
 - Repeat testing on same specimen using a saline washed suspension of red cells.
 - Weak or missing reverse type may be enhanced by incubating at room temperature or at 4°C for 15 to 30 minutes. Include an adult O cell as a control. A positive control indicates the presence of a cold antibody and invalidates the reverse test.
 - Positive reactions in reverse type may be due to atypical or cold nonspecific antibodies. Warm serum and A₁ and B cells before testing.
 - Repeat testing on a fresh specimen.
 - Unexplained positive reactions in reverse grouping may be due to the presence of atypical antibodies or cold nonspecific antibodies. These may include anti-A₁, anti-P, anti-M, anti-N, anti-Le(a), and anti-Le(b)
 - If discrepancy remains refer to reference laboratory.
- Discrepancies between serum and cell grouping should be resolved prior to transfusion. Group O red blood cells and Group AB fresh frozen plasma are the preferred transfusion alternative for any recipient whose ABO group is in question.
- Significant variations in red blood cell suspensions may result in false-positive or false negative reactions.
- Only D negative cord bloods require weak D testing.



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PAGE 3 of 4

REFERENCES:

Blood Grouping Reagent current package inserts
AABB Technical manual 17th edition
CAP Requirement TRM.40100



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PAGE 4 of 4

Reviewed by	Reviewed Date	Reviewed by	Reviewed Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	8-6-14		
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Reason: _____

Reviewed by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/10/13

Department Supervisor

Reviewed by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/8/13

Department Adm. Director

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____
Department Chief Technologist

Reviewed and Approved by: *[Signature]* Date: 7/8/13
Department Medical Director