**Purpose:**

To describe the process for providing red blood cells when transfusion is required prior to completion of pre-transfusion testing.

**Process:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| **1** | * Receive CPOE order or Transfusion Services Testing & Blood Product Order Form marked for EMERGENCY RELEASE OR receive verbal order that blood is needed urgently.
	+ Clarify if an MTP is being activated (Refer to MTP procedure)
 | * + Massive Transfusion Protocol
 |
| **2** | **IF No unexpired sample available:*** Request patient sample be drawn STAT
* Take verbal order.
* Issue blood per Trauma Response Process.
 | * Selection of Red Blood Cell Units
* Trauma Response Process
* Blood Product Issue Process
 |
| **3** | **IF unexpired (in-date) sample available:*** Determine status of patient sample and/or blood components:
* Crossmatched RBCs available:
* Take verbal order.
* Send available crossmatched blood.
* No crossmatched blood, but in-date sample available: Process order immediately.
* Take verbal order.
* Send available crossmatched blood.
 | * Blood Order Processing in SQ
* Blood Product Issue Process
 |
| **4** | **New Patient Sample Received:*** Process patient sample STAT:
* ABO/D testing completion allows for the selection and issue of type specific components
* Antibody screen completion with negative antibody screen allows for the issue of crossmatched RBCs
* For positive antibody screens or patients with history of RBC antibodies, if transfusion required before antigen negative (if applicable) crossmatched units can be provided:
* Issue Emergency Release Type Specific Units
 | * Selection of Red Blood Cell Units
 |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| **5** | **Issue Emergency Release Type Specific Units** * + RBCs needed before indicated testing can be completed.
	+ If the patient does not qualify for electronic cross match
	+ There will be a delay providing crossmatch compatible units
 |  |
| **6** | **Complete Request for Urgent Blood Product Release form:**Complete top of form and patient name and HIDCheck the appropriate category:* + Life threatening blood loss and incomplete testing
	+ Crossmatch compatible but antibody identification incomplete
	+ Positive Direct Antiglobulin test has not been investigated in order to rule out a delayed transfusion reaction but the units appear crossmatch compatible.
	+ Blood is incompatible and unobtainable. Fill in the reason
	+ Other allows for specific situations and instructions to be communicated to the patient’s physician
 | * Request for Urgent Blood Product Release form
 |
| **7** | **Notify the Medical Director/ Resident/Covering Physician of:*** Bleeding patient
* Request for Urgent Release of RBCs for patients with a positive antibody screen and/or history of RBC antibodies (prior to completion of antibody Identification and compatibility testing)
* Repeated calls and questions from nursing staff about when products will be ready when patient has antibodies, and testing is ongoing.
 |  |
| **Follow-up and Order Completion** |
| **8** | * Units:
	+ Update status of returned units to Inventory/Allocated
	+ Store units in appropriate storage area
 | * + - Using Blood Status Update
 |
| **9** | * Request for Urgent Blood Products Form (UBP):
	+ Review form for completeness
	+ Triage to CT tech
		- CT Tech:
	+ Complete appropriate testing utilizing the in-date sample
	+ Print Transfusion Record Form
	+ File for Medical Records.
	+ Confirm UBP form is complete.
	+ File form
 |  |
| **10** | * + - Refill of orders on other patients:
	+ Refill the orders for these patients, as appropriate.
	+ Adjust billing to insure charges are not duplicated
 |  |

**References:**

Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, Current Edition. American Association of Blood Bank. AABB Press, Bethesda, MD