**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 HID  Check 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