**Purpose**: This document describes the process of Emergency Release of Red Blood Cell (RBC) components when the patient’s status requires release of RBCs prior to completion of compatibility testing.

**Process:**

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| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| 1 | Perform clerical check and resolve any discrepancies:   * Specimen label against request and computer entry | Blood Bank Inquiry  Order Entry in Sunquest |
| 2 | Determine specimen acceptability. | Sample Acceptance Evaluation |
| 3 | Confirm that processes and attributes on the:   * Blood request are entered into the patient computer record * Patient computer record information is recorded on the blood request | Order Entry in Sunquest |
| 4 | Review Patient Comments.   * Determine if autologous or directed components are available. | Blood Order Processing in Sunquest |
| 5 | Complete patient specimen test “History Check”. |  |
| 6 | Determine applicable testing profile   * 2nd ABO/D from separate collection required on patients >4 months of age with Unknown blood type or no serologic result history of previous ABO/D testing * Previous antibody screen results * Autologous battery: go to Autologous Process | Auto Unit Allocation Process |
| 7 | Adjust test profile. |  |
| 8 | Complete ABO/D testing.   * Set up antibody screen. | ABO/D by Tube Method  ABO Discrepancy Resolution  Antibody Screen by LISS Tube IAT  Antibody Screen by Automated Method |
| 9 | Select appropriate donor units in this order:   * **Autologous** are always sent first * **Directed** are sent next * **Allogeneic** units are 3rd choice | Selection of Red Blood Cell Units  Autologous Process  Directed Process |
| 10 | Allocate selected units. |  |
| **Step** | **Action** | **Related Documents** |
| 11 | Add unit test: CM (unit tag comments)   * Result CM: EMERGENCY RELEASE |  |
| 12 | Inspect unit and complete unit test “TS”:   * Acceptable: continue to next step * Unacceptable: Remove unit from order and quarantine. | Visual Inspection of Red Cell Products  Quarantine of Blood Products |
| 13 | **SAVE.** Branch to BPI appears in pop-up window |  |
| 14 | Click Emergency Issue to print Transfusion Record Form.   * Review Transfusion Record Form for legibility and completeness. * Apply UNXM sticker to HMC Transfusion Record * Complete Blood Product Issue:   + Have Lead Technologist/Technologist in charge Override QA warnings: “Patient specimen testing complete” and “Unit Allocation Testing Override Comment required:   + EMR (Emergency release, UNCROSSMATCHED)     - Apply Unit Tag (Transfusion Record form) to unit. | Blood Product Issue  Transfusion Record Form  HMC2536 |
| 15 | Apply UNXM sticker to unit |  |
| 16 | Complete Urgent Blood Product Release form.   * + - Select applicable situation, use other for further explanation * Timestamp BCR and transport units to patient care area. | Request for Urgent Blood Product Release Form |
| 17 | Complete antibody screen. | Antibody Screen by LISS Tube IAT Method  Problem Resolution |
| 18 | Perform applicable crossmatch test   * Antiglobulin * Immediate Spin | Crossmatch by LISS Tube IAT  Crossmatch by PEG Tube IAT  Crossmatch by Tube IS |
| 19 | Allocate unit. |  |
| 20 | Add unit test: CM (unit tag comment)   * Result CM: Post-Issue crossmatch * Add unit Test UR and reprint the Unit Tag. |  |
| 21 | Unit tag will print. File unit tag for pick up and scanning by HIM |  |
| 19 | File form. | Request for Urgent Blood Product Release Form |
| 20 | Store patient sample | Sample and Unit Segment Management Process |

**References:**

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

Blood Bank User’s Guide, Misys Laboratory