

PROCEDURE FOR: Blood Components: Emergency Release

- POLICY:**
1. Uncross-matched units of red blood cells may be given in life-threatening emergency situations, when ordered as medically necessary by a licensed physician.
 2. The ordering licensed physician must sign the emergency blood request for uncross-matched blood, either when the request is first being completed or in the Blood Bank at a later time. The ordering licensed physician's name must appear legibly on the form to assist the Blood Bank staff in communicating information about subsequent incompatible cross-matches.
 3. If an Rh negative woman of child-bearing age or Rh negative female child has received Rh positive blood, the Blood Bank physician will advise the patient's physician about the administration of Rh immune globulin within 24 hours of transfusion, including the appropriate dosage of Rh immune globulin.

EQUIPMENT: Blood Bank Emergency Blood Request (HCH-2021)
Blood administration set
Normal saline
Blood warmer if necessary

PROCEDURE:

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>POINTS OF EMPHASIS</u>
1. Call Blood Bank, Ext. 2524 and state "Emergency Blood Request". Tell the Blood Bank technologist the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient's name• Medical record number• Number of units required, and• Name of ordering physician• Location	1. Exception to identification procedure is for a newly born infant for whom a medical record number has yet to be assigned.
2. If an active type and screen is available, the technologist will state this and release type-specific or cross-matched units, whichever is applicable.	
3. If no type and screen is available, obtain a blood specimen per Procedure for Blood Components: Type and Screen/Type and Cross-Match for Transfusion Purposes and send to the Blood Bank as soon as possible.	3. If there is no historical blood type in the Blood Bank, the Blood Bank will request an ABO/Rh confirmation specimen which must be drawn by a separate stick that the type and screen specimen. Unit this specimen is received, blood released will be uncross-matched and require a signed Emergency Blood Release form.
4. Complete a Blood Bank Emergency Blood Request form, obtaining the signature of the licensed physician as needed.	4. This form may be signed by the physician in the Blood Bank at a later time.

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5. Send a courier to the Blood Bank with the completed Blood Bank Emergency Blood Request form to obtain unit(s) of Type O red blood cells.
5. It is preferable that units be released singly until the cross-match is completed. A second unit can be released when multiple units are needed before cross-match is completed.
6. Initiate the blood transfusion.
6. Type and cross-match of blood will be carried out, and if an incompatibility is detected, the Blood Bank technologist or physician will notify the ordering physician named on the Blood Bank Emergency Blood Request form.

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee
Transfusion Committee
Director of Transfusion Medicine

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/84

REVISION DATES: 3/86, 9/90, 10/93, 7/96, 11/96, 3/97, 10/97, 9/00, 5/05, 4/08