


<b>Name of Policy:</b>	<b>Urgent Request for Uncrossmatched Blood</b>	 <b>Effective Date:</b> 6/9/2008 Initial Effective Date: 6/1996
<b>Policy Number:</b>	3364-108-404	
<b>Department:</b>	Pathology/Laboratory – Blood Bank	
<b>Approving Officer:</b>	Associate Professor Director, Clinical Pathology/Hematopathology	
<b>Responsible Agent:</b>	Core Lab Coordinator (Michelle Bartkowiak, MT(ASCP)SBB) Manager, Lab (Cynthia O’Connell)	
<b>Scope:</b>	Pathology/Laboratory – Blood Bank	
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy		

**(A) Policy Statement**

The Blood Transfusion Service has organized a system for providing blood prior to completion of compatibility testing for urgent requests for blood.

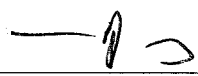
**(B) Purpose of Policy**

To provide safe and appropriate blood with a minimum turnaround time for urgent requests for blood.

**(C) Procedure**

**REQUESTS FOR UNCROSSMATCHED BLOOD TAKE PRIORITY OVER ALL OTHER BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE OPERATIONS.**

1. A properly labeled and identified Blood Bank specimen should be collected before transfusion.
2. Complete the "Urgent Release of Uncrossmatched Blood" form with unit numbers, patient name and ID number, time, date and patient location.
3. If the ABO and Rh type, forward and reverse, is not yet completed on a current specimen according to procedure, only type O negative red blood cells will be released for transfusion. When the ABO and Rh type is completed, type-specific red blood cells may be issued.
4. Uncrossmatched blood must bear the "Crossmatch Test Not Completed" label. Place the label on the back side of the donor unit tag. Blood is considered "uncrossmatched" until the antibody screen is resulted, even though the immediate-spin crossmatch may be completed.
5. If a pretransfusion specimen has been received, or testing is in progress, complete the EMERGENCY RELEASE procedure in computer system.
6. Determine if proper storage conditions will be maintained in the event the blood is not transfused immediately. If two or more units are released at a time, attach temperature indicators to the units and issue the blood in a cooler with cold packs.
7. The requesting physician must sign the form and return the form to the Blood Transfusion Service as soon as possible.
8. A copy of the Urgent Release of Uncrossmatched Blood form is charted following completion of testing and review by the Blood Transfusion Service Medical Director.
9. Use of uncrossmatched blood is monitored and reviewed by the Blood Utilization Review Committee.

<b>Approved by:</b>  _____ Robert L. Booth, Jr., M.D. Associate Professor Director, Clinical Pathology/Hematopathology  Review/Revision Completed By: Michelle Bartkowiak, MT(ASCP)SBB	<b>Review/Revision Date:</b> 6/96 1/98 2/99 3/02 1/05 1/2008 6/9/2008  <b>Next Review Date:</b> 6/1/2011
<b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b>	

*It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.*

Reference: AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, current edition.