(A) Policy Statement

Patient safety in the OR is of utmost importance. In order to meet this departmental goal, specifically for organ transplant patients, ABO-Rh and tissue typing of donor organs must be done in a timely manner.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To coordinate services between the OR and laboratory to enhance patient safety during organ transplantation.

(C) Procedure

1. If directed by the Life Connection Coordinator, when the organ transplant courier delivers the donor organ to the OR, the charge nurse or circulating nurse will immediately store blood and tissue sample packages in the OR blood refrigerator and notify UTMC laboratory tissue typing. Do not place recipient labels on tubes. The UNOS number is all that is needed to identify the specimen.

2. Use a Miscellaneous Lab slip to request ABO-Rh and a separate Miscellaneous Lab slip to request tissue typing. Request and tubes/container should be sent to lab as quickly as possible upon receipt of organs.

3. Results should be reported within a reasonable amount of time by either calling the OR at #3900, contacting the OR room in which the transplant is taking place, transmitting a printed copy to the OR printer, or by faxing results to the PACU fax at #6155.

Notify Life Connection at 419-893-4891 when donor organ arrives to the OR.

* If the procedure in cancelled or postponed notify the lab immediately. In the event that the donor organ is transferred to another facility, notify the lab so the remaining tissue and donor blood samples can be repackaged and sent with the donor organ.

**If the transplant should occur after 10:00pm, please call the laboratory at #3470 or 5212 to let them know of lab work being sent. If there is a question concerning tissue typing call #4292, or after normal working hours you may page the technician on call through the UTMC operator.
Policies Superseded by This Policy: 4-52

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