(A) Policy Statement

The Blood Transfusion Service labels modified and “crossmatched” blood and components accurately, by a uniform procedure and with a second verification of accuracy of product labels.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To provide accurate, uniformly labeled blood components for distribution to patients.

(C) Procedure

1. Attach labels used as secondary bag labels to the primary bag label. Avoid obscuring FDA-mandated portions of the primary label (Name of component, Instructions to the transfusionist, “Volunteer Donor,” etc.)

2. Label all blood and blood components according to the appropriate format in Procedure Manual Section 400.

3. When blood or components are modified requiring a new ABO/Rh type label, as for pooled components, a second check shall be done to compare and verify that the following information is correct on the blood unit label and the compatibility label: unit source number or UTMC-assigned number, ABO/Rh type assigned, expiration date and time, UTMC component preparation product label.

4. The unit bag labels shall be compared to the information on the Transfusion Record and the compatibility label at the time of product preparation/crossmatch by scanning bar-codes for confirmation. The information shall be compared and verified a second time at product issue by scanning bar-codes for confirmation.
Approved by:

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Reference: Current Edition, Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, AABB.

Next Review Date: 3/1/2019