



Marshfield Labs™

A division of Marshfield Clinic

Laboratory *News*

VOL. 40, NO. 4 - AUGUST 7, 2017

SELECTION OF RBCS FOR TRANSFUSION - POLICY CHANGE

Kathy Puca, MD & Clint Borek, Manager, Transfusion Service

There has been a change in Transfusion Service policies surrounding selection of RBC products for patients. This change provides improved patient safety and remains in compliance with the newest regulatory/accreditation (AABB) requirements surrounding blood transfusions and patient identification.

Moving forward, patients will receive group “O” RBCs if there is NO history of blood type for the patient on file in the Marshfield Labs Transfusion Service AND the Type & Screen sample was NOT collected by a Handheld electronic identification device. When a Handheld device was NOT used and NO historical blood type is on file for the patient, a 2nd blood type from a separate collection time will be performed at no charge prior to distributing ABO type specific RBCs.

This practice is in line with The Joint Commission (TJC) National Patient Safety Goals and has shown to reduce the risk of an ABO incompatible RBC being transfused in the event of patient misidentification at the time of sample collection.

SUMMARY


ABO **type specific** RBCs will be provided under **either** of these circumstances:

- Sample collected by Handheld device, or
- No Handheld device used, BUT historical record of patient’s blood type on file.

Group “O” RBCs will be provided under these circumstances:

- Sample NOT collected with Handheld device AND NO historical record of patient’s blood type on file.

CONTACTS

- Kathy Puca, MD or Clint Borek, Transfusion Service.
- Phone number: 800-222-5835. 



BEYOND numbers