



GROUP O Rh D NEGATIVE RED CELLS

Top Tips to Reduce Usage and Wastage



Transfuse Group O Rh D positive red cells to male patients, and female patients over 50, of unknown blood group in emergency scenarios.



In an emergency situation, move to group specific RBC as soon as a second test for ABO compatibility has been performed. If necessary review processes to ensure timely release of group specific RBC. Retrieve unused Group O RhD negative red cells from the clinical area following release of group specific blood.



Review incidents of Group O RhD negative use in emergency situations and investigate incidents when it's use, or continued use, was inappropriate.



To reduce wastage due to time expiry, raise staff awareness to ensure RBCs selected are appropriate to the request (e.g. use short dated RBC for immediate issue.)



If Group O RhD negative RBC units are frequently given to non O RhD negative patients to avoid time expiry, consider reducing Group O RhD negative stock. The stated target is for no more than 12.5% of total RBC stock holding to be Group O RhD negative with an ISI of 3-4 days



Empower laboratory staff to query inappropriate requests. Refer to Consultant Haematologist if necessary. In non bleeding patients, transfuse a single unit before conducting clinical review and haemoglobin check.



Form a review body (or use your HTT) to regularly monitor clinical activity, usage and stock holding. Investigate wastage including reason and responsibility (e.g. lab or clinical area).



Instil a culture of positive stock management to all staff, including out of hours and locum staff, and encourage them to not over order. Delegate responsibility for daily stock rotation and restocking in the blood bank to named members of staff or use a daily checklist.



Rotate emergency and satellite fridge Group O RhD negative RBC through main stock on a regular basis (at least weekly). Reduce stock of emergency O RhD negative RBC in satellite fridges to no more than 2 units.



Risk assess the clinical activities served by satellite fridges, together with the distance from the laboratory, to determine if there is a need for Group O RhD negative units to be stored there.