

My Patient, Your Patient, Our Patient-Immunohematology Reference Lab

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Ultimate Goal

Carter BloodCare Mission Statement: We save lives by making transfusion possible.

This applies to every aspect from the collection of the blood, to processing, testing, distributing and everything in between.

In the Reference and Transfusion Department(R&T), one area we are specifically interested in is pre-transfusion testing. Our goal is to identify any unexpected antibodies in the patient's sample and to provide a safe blood product to the patient in a timely manner.

What is the antibody?

- * Is the antibody clinically significant?
- Can we find compatible blood?
 Does this antibody cause hemolytic disease of the newborn?
- Does this antibody cause nemolytic disease of the newborn?
 How long is it going to take?



Let's get started

Receiving/Processing

- Lab assistants receive in specimen
- Call to notify client receipt of specimen (if reference facility)
- Centrifuge sample
- Place sample/order in designated racks







Now the fun begins



Getting started

- . The next available tech will select a workup based on the order it was received and/or status or continue a workup from a previous shift
- A workup sent for antibody identification typically begins with a Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT) and antibody screen



Testing considerations

Methodology

There is no perfect, one-size-fits-all test method.

Tubes (LISS, PeG)

Pros: test different phases (IS,RT,37,IAT), resolve discrepancies/rouleaux, specialized testing Cons: tech/technique dependent, labor intensive, subjective, unstable (must be read immediately)

Gel

Pros: small sample/reagent volume, less subjective interpretation, stable, can be automated Cons: time limitation, sensitivity (not enough/too much), equipment requirements/maintenance

Solid Phase (ECHO)

Pros: automated, stable, standardization, detect Kidd antibodies well, Knops system not detected Cons: larger volume requirement, unable to choose selected cells, sensitivity, time limitation

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Collaboration

General Considerations

- Methodology used at facility (gel, tubes, solid phase)
 Results from testing performed at facility
- +DAT?
- Anagram results? All cells pos? 1 cell? Incompat xm?
 Previous history check
 WAA/CAA
- Allo Ab? Ex. -K, -Js(b)
 Additional Details

 - Recently transfused? BMT?Diagnosis? Multiple Myeloma, ITP, Leukemia, Sickle Cell
 Ethnicity?

 - Medication?
 - WinRho, Daratumumab (DARA), anti-microbial (Cephalosporin)

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Test selection

- . Based on assessment of the aforementioned criteria, experience, and gut instinct
- Examples:
 - Typically solid phase detects anti-D's and Kidd antibodies well; therefore, we
 may choose to use the ECHO although the client uses tubes or gel
 Antibodies in the Knops system are sometimes undetectable on the ECHO

 - Antbodies in the Knops system are sometimes undetectable on the ECHO
 Warn auto antibodies (and offen cold antibodies) cannot be resolved in solid phase
 and are often difficult to complete in get; therefore, WAA/CAA's are *usually* resolved
 using tube testing
 High ther low avidity antibodies (HTLA) are *generally* best reactive in get (may not
 be detectable using tube testing)
 Rouleaux cannot be resolved in get resulting in a different choice of methodology















Simple antibody ID









Gel (Ex. Anti-E)





Weak reactions/non-specific rxns









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Warm auto Ab with no underlying Allo antibodies



Case study 1

- 37 year old pregnant, Hispanic female
 Presented to hospital for delivery with a 3g/dl Hgb
 Referred to our facility by a reference account

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Confirmation



➤ Type patient for Ge2 Ag



> Test Ge:-2 cells against patient's plasma







 Import/ARDP . Type siblings Autologous donation when donauc. available Carter BloodCare

What's new and exciting?

- Molecular
 - Screening donors
 - Testing patients

Daratumumab (DARA)

- Monoclonal anti-CD38
- Promising for Multiple Myeloma patients

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It takes a TEAM effort

- · Everyone plays an integral role in getting the proper blood to the patient
 - Phlebotomist
 - Referring facility
 - Physician
 - Nurse
 - Lab
 - Family





Questions?



Photo credit: Bernard Simor

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References

1. Reid ME and Lomas-Francis C. The Blood Group Antigen Facts Book. San Diego, CA: American Press, 3rd Edition, 2012

