

To: Transfusion Services Managers
From: Hospital Relations Department
Date: March 13, 2020
Re: 32nd Edition AABB Standards

Background:

The 32nd edition of AABB standards requires the following to be met for patient testing.

Standard 5.14.5 Pretransfusion Testing for Allogeneic Transfusion

There shall be two determinations of the recipient's ABO group as specified in Standard 5.14.1. The first determination shall be performed on a current sample, the second determination by one of the following methods:

- 1) Comparison with previous records
- 2) Testing a second sample collected at a time different from the first sample, including a new verification of patient identification.
- 3) Retesting the same sample if patient identification was verified using a **validated electronic identification system.**

The previous edition of standards allowed for retesting of the same sample if patient identification was verified using an electronic identification system **or another process validated to reduce the risk of misidentification.** The blood bank armband system - unless electronic and validated - will no longer qualify and consequently submission of a secondary patient sample is required.

Impact to Client:

In order to comply with the updated AABB standard, your response to the statement

Samples were collected using an electronic ID system Yes No

will be required on *RTF101.01A, Reference and Transfusion Services Request Form*. If samples were **not** collected using an electronic system, then a 2nd sample collected at a separate phlebotomy must be submitted for testing in order to provide crossmatched products.

The second sample must be properly labeled and can be an EDTA, heparin, ACD, CPD or red-top without serum separator sample.

This change is effective July 15, 2020.