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AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION
OF BLOOD BANKS

11TH EDITION

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**AMERICAN
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OF BLOOD BANKS**

**8101 GLENBROOK ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814**

**11TH EDITION
1993**



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Introduction

In the 3 years that have elapsed since the last edition of the *Technical Manual*, there has been change, but more importantly, an adjustment to change. We are experiencing an enhanced awareness of our need to develop programs that will enable us to monitor performance in terms of the expectations of our users. These new programs in quality assessment and the application of continuous improvement should result in better patient care and increased safety for our patients and donors. Emphasis continues on more careful donor screening and better laboratory tests to detect disease markers in donor blood. Relevance and streamlining in red cell serology are increasingly evident as Laboratory Information Systems are becoming more widely used to store information, track components/bone/tissues and assist the user to meet the complex requirements that exist today in blood centers and hospital transfusion services.

Transfusion practice is dynamic and is being modified as new information and methods become available. This edition of the *Technical Manual*, the 11th, contains the same chapters found in the 10th edition. However, the material has been extensively updated and revised, and some sections have been rewritten. Any edition of the *Technical Manual* is a snapshot in time of this evolving theory and practice. The editors, contributors and reviewers have attempted to capture this snapshot, as reflected by the 15th edition of *Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services* in the Spring of 1993.

The editors are especially grateful to all of the contributors and reviewers of this edition for their assistance. Their comments, suggestions and critiques have been most valuable and greatly appreciated. The review process has strengthened the value of this book.

Richard H. Walker, MD
Editor-in-Chief

Technical Manual

Contents

Introduction

ix

Collection, Processing, Storage and Shipment of Blood and Tissues

1. Blood Collection	1
Blood Donors	1
Collection of Blood	15
Processing Donor Blood	19
References	21
Appendix 1-1. Uniform Donor History Questionnaire	23
2. Hemapheresis	29
Component Preparation	29
Therapeutic Hemapheresis	36
References	47
3. Blood Components: Preparation, Storage and Shipment	51
Anticoagulation and Preservation	51
Preparation of Components	56
Red Blood Cells	58
Plasma	60
Cryoprecipitated AHF	61
Whole Blood Cryoprecipitate Removed	63
Platelets	63
Granulocytes	64
Storage of Blood and Components	64
Donor Blood Inspection	67
Reissuing Blood	68
Inspection of Other Components	68
Transportation of Blood Components	68
Special Considerations	70
Labels	71
Records	71
References	72

4. Transfusion-Transmitted Viruses	75
Hepatitis	75
Transfusion-Associated Disease (Hepatitis, AIDS)	85
Preventing Viral Hepatitis	87
Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	89
Herpes Viruses	104
Other Viruses	105
References	105
 5. Cryopreservation of Blood	 113
Cold Injury and Cryoprotective Agents	113
Freezing Red Cells	115
Quality Assurance	119
Clinical Considerations	119
Freezing Other Cells	120
References	121
 6. Tissue Banking and Organ Transplantation	 123
Introduction	123
Bone Banking	125
Skin Banking	126
Semen Banking	127
Heart Valves and Blood Vessels	127
Tracking of Tissues	127
Transfusion Service Support for Organ Transplantation	128
Kidney Transplants	128
Liver Transplants	130
Heart Transplants	132
Pancreas Transplants	132
Bone Marrow Transplantation	132
National Bone Marrow Donor Registry	137
References	138

Immunologic and Genetic Principles

7. Immunohematology	141
Introduction	141
Lymphohematopoiesis	141
Cytokines	142
Cells of the Immune System	146
Clonal Selection	148
Antigens	148

Antibodies	149
Complement	155
The Immune Response	160
In-Vitro Detection of Antigen-Antibody Reactions	164
Factors Affecting Agglutination	167
Immunologically Mediated Diseases	169
Monoclonal Antibodies	171
References	173

8. The Antiglobulin Test 175

Principles of the Antiglobulin Test	175
Antihuman Globulin Reagents	176
Antiglobulin Techniques	178
Sources of Error	180
Role of Complement in the Antiglobulin Reactions	184
References	186

9. Genetics 189

Terminology	189
Gene Action	192
Dominant and Recessive Traits	192
Gene Interaction	195
Blood Group Nomenclature	195
Parentage Testing	197
Population Genetics	198
Molecular Genetics	199
References	201

Blood Groups

10. ABO, H and P Blood Groups and Structurally Related Antigens 203

Introduction	203
The ABO System	203
The H System	219
The Lewis Antigens	220
The I/i Antigens	223
The P Blood Group	224
References	227

11. Rh and LW Blood Groups	229
Introduction	229
Other Important Antigens	231
Inheritance and Nomenclature	231
Weak Expression of D	235
Other Rh Antigens	239
Biochemical Considerations	241
The LW Antigen	243
Rh _{null} Syndrome and Rh _{mod}	245
Rh Antibodies in the Patient	246
Rh Typing Tests	247
Anti-D Reagents	247
Low-Protein Reagents	250
Tests for Antigens Other Than D	253
Additional Considerations in Rh Testing	253
References	256
 12. Other Blood Groups	 259
The MN Blood Groups	259
Lutheran Blood Group System	266
Kell Blood Group System	267
Duffy Blood Group System	270
Kidd Blood Group System	272
Additional Pairs of Antithetical RBC Antigens	273
Determinants of Other Cellular Elements of Human Blood	280
References	282
 13. The HLA System	 287
Introduction	287
Genetics of the Major Histocompatibility Complex	289
Biochemistry, Tissue Distribution and Structure	291
Nomenclature	293
Biological Function	295
Detection of HLA Antigens	295
The HLA System and Transfusion	298
HLA Testing and Transplantation	302
Parentage Testing	304
HLA and Disease	305
References	306

Application of Serologic Principles of Transfusion Practice

14. Pretransfusion Testing	309
Transfusion Request Forms	309
Blood Sample	310
Previous Records	311
Serologic Testing	312
Interpretation of Antibody Screening and Crossmatch Results	322
Massive Transfusion	328
Routine Surgical Blood Orders	329
References	330
15. Identification of Unexpected Alloantibodies	333
General Procedures	333
Considerations in Interpreting Serologic Results	336
Selected Serologic Procedures	345
References	353
16. Investigation of a Positive DAT and Immune Hemolysis	355
Significance of a Positive DAT	355
The Pretransfusion DAT or Autocontrol	355
Evaluation of a Positive DAT	356
Investigation of Blood Samples Containing Autoantibodies	365
Management of Patients With Autoantibodies	367
Drug-Induced Immune Hemolytic Anemias	373
Laboratory Investigation of Drug-Induced Immune Hemolysis	384
Resolving Problems Due to ALG/ATG Therapy	384
References	385

Clinical Considerations in Transfusion Practices

17. Blood Transfusion Practice	389
Transfusion of Red Cells	389
Leukocyte-Reduced Blood Components	393
Platelet Transfusion	395
Gamma Irradiation of Cellular Blood Components	402
Fresh Frozen Plasma	402
Cryoprecipitate	407
Granulocyte Transfusion	408
Plasma Derivatives and Plasma Substitutes	409

Special Situations Involving Transfusion	415
Administration of Blood and Components	418
Pharmacologic Alternatives to Transfusion	422
References	425
Appendix 17-1. Clinical Guide to Blood Component Therapy	431

18. Neonatal and Obstetrical Transfusion Practice 435

Fetal and Neonatal Erythropoiesis	435
Unique Aspects of Neonatal Physiology	437
Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn	440
Components Used for Neonatal Transfusion	446
Compatibility Testing	449
Transfusion Administration	450
Indications for Red Cell Transfusion	451
Indications for Exchange Transfusion	452
Technique of Exchange Transfusion	458
Platelet Transfusion	459
Granulocyte Transfusion	461
Other Blood Components	461
Obstetrical Considerations	462
References	466

19. Adverse Effects of Blood Transfusion 471

Evaluation of Suspected Hemolytic Transfusion Reactions	471
Acute Adverse Effects of Transfusion	476
Delayed Adverse Effects of Transfusion	483
Records of Transfusion Complications	487
References	487

20. Autologous Transfusion 491

Preoperative Autologous Blood Donation	491
Intraoperative Hemodilution	498
Intraoperative Blood Collection	500
Postoperative Blood Collection	503
References	504

Other Considerations

21. Safety 507

Introduction	507
Overview of Safety Program Development	509
Terminology	509

Protection of Personnel	511
General Considerations in Safety Programs	514
Waste Management	522
Blood Storage	523
Transportation, Shipping and Labeling of Blood	524
Chemical Hazards	525
Radiation Hazards	529
References	532
Suggested Reading	533
Appendix 21-1. Sample Hazardous Chemical Data Sheet	535
Appendix 21-2. Example of an Emergency Instructions Checklist	536
Appendix 21-3. Hazardous Chemicals in the Blood Bank	537
22. Quality Management	539
A Quality Assessment and Continuous Improvement (QACI) Plan	539
Quality Control	543
Accreditation	549
Proficiency Tests	549
Transfusion Practices	550
Adverse Reactions, Errors and Reporting	550
Donor Collection and Processing	551
References	558
Suggested Reading	558
Appendix 22-1. Leukocyte-Reduced Blood Components: Definitions, Formulas for Calculations, Presentation of Data and Calculation Example	559
23. Records	561
Standard Operating Procedures	561
Categories of Records	564
Use of Records	565
Retention of Records	567
Summary Records	569
Specific Record Requirements	569
Errors, Accidents and Adverse Reactions	577
References	578
24. Blood Usage Review	579
Requirements for Review	579
Results of Review	580
Organization of the Transfusion Committee	581
Functions of the Transfusion Committee	582
Monitoring Hospital Transfusion Practice	583

References	586
Appendix 24-1. Key Indicators for Systems Audits	588

25. Blood Inventory Management 591

Hospital Transfusion Services	591
Regional Blood Centers	595
Managing Platelet Inventories	596
Inventory Control of Frozen Plasma Derivatives	596
Components From Selected Donors	596
References	596

Methods

1. General Laboratory Methods 601

1.1. Shipment of Blood Specimens	602
1.2. Treatment of Incompletely Clotted Specimens	606
1.3. Solution Preparation—General Instructions	606
1.4. Serum Dilution	608
1.5. Dilution of % Solutions	609
1.6. Preparation and Use of Phosphate Buffer	610
1.7. Preparation of EDTA-Saline for Use in the Immediate-Spin Crossmatch	610
1.8. Modified Alsever's Solution	611
1.9. Grading of Test Results	611
1.10. Microplate Techniques Applied to Routine Blood Bank Procedures	612
1.11. Decontamination of Metallic Azides	619

2. Blood Grouping and Typing 621

2.1. Slide Test for Determination of ABO Group of Red Cells	621
2.2. Tube Tests for Determination of ABO Group of Rbcs and Serum	622
2.3. Microplate Test for Determination of ABO Group of Rbcs and Serum	623
2.4. Confirmation of Weak A or B Subgroup by Adsorption and Elution	624
2.5. Saliva Testing for A, B, H, Le ^a and Le ^b	625
2.6. Slide Test for Rh Testing	627
2.7. Tube Test for Rh Testing	628
2.8. Microplate Test for Determination of Rh Type of Rbcs	629
2.9. Test for Weak D (D ^u Test)	629
2.10. Capillary Testing for Rh	630
2.11. Low-Ionic Polybrene [®] Microplate Technique	631