



SAFETY ALERT

EMERGENCY TRANSFUSION

“Sharing Lessons Learned”

Transfusion Medicine reported several incidents in the month of June of inpatients who didn't have valid Type and Screen samples and required urgent blood transfusion. Patient status required initiating the **Emergency Transfusion protocol** as per hospital policies and procedure.

Δ Emergency Transfusion:

Although the hospital has policies and procedures approved by national and international guidelines for emergency transfusion. However, it must be avoided unless dire emergencies occurred such as traumas or sudden crashing of a patient admitted in critical areas.

Δ Risk of Emergency Transfusion:

In cases where emergency transfusion is required, the patient is receiving blood that could be incompatible due to lack of testing done on the blood unit(s). This could lead to hemolytic reactions that could've been avoided if the patient had a valid type and screen sample.



(figure.1)

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

How to avoid emergency transfusion?

- Δ Follow hospital policies that all inpatients must be tested for type and screen upon admission.
- Δ Ensure that ABO confirmation test has been done for the patient.
- Δ All inpatients must have a valid type and screen, every 72 hours (figure.3)



(figure.2)



(figure.3)

Related IPPs

- Blood Transfusion Emergency Request – CIPP-3737
- Blood Transfusion – Blood and Blood Product Administration – CIPP-3739
- Ordering of Blood and Blood Products for Transfusion – CIPP-3959

Prepared by: Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine