This document must be read in conjunction with Transfusion Medicine: Major Haemorrhage and Urgent Transfusion Requests

Indication
- Massive blood loss with associated shock (weak pulses, bradycardia) not responding to volume replacement with normal saline.

Access to Uncrossmatched O-Negative Blood
A stock of two (2) O Negative fresh (≤ 7 days old) CMV Negative red cell minipacks are stored in the monitored Theatre Recovery blood fridge for neonatal resuscitation in a life threatening emergency.

Minipack Use in Theatre
Minipacks are not to be removed from the Theatre Recovery monitored blood fridge unless:
- Immediate transfusion to the neonate is indicated.
- Minipacks must be set up for infusion or returned to the blood fridge within 30 minutes of removal.

Process for Resuscitation Team
- At the earliest possible opportunity, a nominated person from the resuscitation team must:
  - Telephone the Blood Bank (Ext 82748) when minipacks are removed from the blood fridge and provide the full maternal name, UMRN, location, clinical indication, and name of the requesting clinician.
  - Complete the Uncrossmatched Emergency O Negative label attached to each minipack and send to Blood Bank.
- While on the phone, the Blood Bank scientist will:
  - Check the maternal history and antibody status
  - Where possible, offer an alternative if the O Negative blood is likely to be incompatible with known maternal antibodies
  - Request an urgent neonatal crossmatch sample to be collected and sent to Blood Bank. Ideally this should be pre-transfusion where possible. The request should be clearly notated to reflect whether the sample is PRE or POST transfusion.
- Advise if additional maternal or cord blood samples are required.
- Provide additional blood products as required.
- Notify Blood Bank immediately if minipacks are:
  - Removed from the blood fridge
  - Not set up for infusion within 30 minutes
  - Returned to the blood fridge unused
  - Or if there are any problems with the fridge, minipacks or the process
- Blood that has out of the blood fridge for > 30 minutes and not transfused is no longer suitable for clinical use because of the risk of bacterial proliferation and MUST be returned to Blood Bank for documented disposal. All blood wastage is reviewed by the KEMH Transfusion Committee.

**Essential Documentation**

**Requesting Neonatologist/Senior Registrar** are to ensure:
- The Theatre Transfusion Register is completed with date and time of minipack removal and/or return to Recovery blood fridge.
- If minipacks are transfused, completing the ‘Uncrossmatched Emergency O Negative’ label attached to each minipack.
- Returning the completed Theatre Transfusion Register form and labels to Blood Bank as soon as possible.
- NOTE: It is essential that Blood Bank is notified of the outcome of any minipacks that are not used within the 30 minute time frame.

**Related policies, procedures and guidelines**

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<td>Transfusion Medicine: Pre-transfusion Testing for Adults and Neonates</td>
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<th>Neonatal Coordinating Group</th>
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<td>Author / Reviewer:</td>
<td>Neonatal Coordinating Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date first issued:</td>
<td>25th October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last reviewed:</td>
<td>18th March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next review date:</td>
<td>18th March 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endorsed by:</td>
<td>Neonatal Coordinating Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date endorsed:</td>
<td>24th March 2020</td>
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<td>Standards Applicable:</td>
<td>NSQHS Standards: 1Governance, 6Communicating, 7Blood Management, 8Acute Deterioration</td>
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