

Summary Chart: Non-Emergency Red Blood Cell Ordering

Type of Ordering => Form Required	Why	Compatibility Sample Required (See Note Below for Pediatrics)	What the Blood Center Issues and When	Special Information
Routine Crossmatched RBCs => Request for Blood and Blood Components form	For stable patients with anemia or scheduled surgery patients needing transfusion within 4-8 hours or at specified time.	1 full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tube. Outpatient transfusion: Two (2) full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tubes preferred.* Subsequent orders can be placed by fax/phone if sufficient sample remains (sample valid for 3 days).	Units issued within 4 hours of sample receipt/order (routine) or to arrive by the specified date/time. Fastest issue time is within 2 hours of sample receipt or fax/phone order at the Blood Center. Additional time is required for transportation.	If antibodies are found, testing may take significantly longer, if this is the case, the MD will be notified. Unused units must be returned to the Blood Center within three days after compatibility sample draw date.
Autologous => Request for Blood and Blood Components form OR Preadmission Request for Blood form	For patient who has stored his/her own blood in advance of surgery. Compatibility sample may be drawn up to 14 days in advance.	1 full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tube.	Autologous units that have been stored are usually issued to arrive within 4 hours of receipt of sample/order (routine) or to arrive by the specified date/time.	Blood type (ABO/Rh) of patient sample verified against unit before issue.
Type and Screen => Request for Blood and Blood Components form	For patients with a low possibility of transfusion, particularly those who may have developed a red cell antibody due to pregnancy or transfusion. Sample is tested for blood type (ABO/Rh) and antibody screen is performed. If units are later ordered, they are issued more quickly.	1 full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tube.	Report of patient blood type (ABO/Rh) and antibody screen. No blood is issued unless a fax/phone request is made to order units.	Sample is tested for blood type (ABO/Rh) and antibody screen is performed. Sample is valid for three days.
Hold Sample => Request for Blood and Blood Components form	For patients with a remote possibility of transfusion. No testing is done. Sample is held at the Blood Center. If units are later ordered, sample transport time is saved. No fee unless subsequent order is placed.	1 full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tube.	No blood is issued unless fax/phone request made to activate an order on the sample.	Sample is valid for three days, no testing is performed unless subsequent order is placed.
Preadmission => Preadmission Request for Blood form	For patient whose planned surgery is up to 30 days away. Either a Type and Screen or RBCs may be ordered. Sample may be drawn up to 30 days in advance of the date RBCs are required if patient meets criteria, see "Special Information" box.	1 full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tube. Two (2) full 7 mL purple top (EDTA) tubes preferred.*	Units issued to arrive by the required time of transfusion, or type and antibody screen report issued if type and screen ordered.	Hospital must be approved to submit preadmission samples. Patient must not have been pregnant or transfused within the previous three months and must sign the Preadmission Request for Blood form.
Confirmation of ABO Type =>Confirmatory ABO/Rh form	Applicable only to patients that do not have an ABO historical record at PSBC. Second separately collected sample is needed to verify ABO type before the issue of routine RBCs.	1 3mL purple top (EDTA) tube.	Report of blood type (ABO/Rh)	