



IMMUNOHEMATOLOGY, BLOOD BANKING & TRANSFUSION OPERATIONS

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IMMUNOHEMATOLOGY AND BLOOD BANKING II

INTRODUCTION

Blood for transfusion is a biologically active therapeutic substance. It has specific effects on the human organism and dosage requirements, just as any other therapeutic substance. Blood differs, however, from other biologicals in that it must be obtained from healthy individuals of the human race. At our present state of knowledge, human whole blood is a perishable substance, and being derived from human beings, must be collected in thousands of widely spread laboratories, rather than being produced in a handful of qualified and well regulated laboratories. The responsibilities of those who collect, process, and issue whole blood for transfusion are tremendous.

Blood transfusion attempts are recorded as far back as the 16th century. At first, animal blood was transfused to humans. Later, human blood was used. However, facts concerning the characteristics of even human blood were not known, and these early transfusions frequently caused severe reactions, and often death.

It can be readily seen that immunohematology is a relatively new medical area, if one stops to consider that Landsteiner discovered three of the four blood groups in the ABO system in 1900. A year later the fourth blood group was discovered, but it was not until 1937 that the Rh factor was discovered. Since that time, tremendous strides have been made in the field of hematology and blood banking.

The safety of blood transfusion is directly proportional to the knowledge, skill, and sense of responsibility of the laboratory technicians. It is not sufficient to establish appropriate procedures and techniques. Continuous instruction and training are required, to assure highest quality and safety in performance of blood bank procedures. That is why, in this subcourse, instruction is concerned with immunohematology, the newborn, and blood transfusion for such.

Subcourse Components:

This subcourse consists of two lessons and an appendix.

Lesson 1, Immune Hemolytic Anemia and Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn.

Lesson 2, Blood Transfusion.

Appendix, Bibliography.

BLOOD DONOR OPERATIONS I

INTRODUCTION

Blood for transfusion is a biologically active therapeutic substance. It has specific effects on the human organism and dosage requirements just as any other therapeutic substance. Blood differs, however, from other biologicals in that it must be obtained from healthy individuals of the human race. The 1980's brought increasing complexity of blood banking operations and problems associated with assessment and management practices for donor suitability, deferral, and adherence to appropriate testing practices and prevention of inappropriate release of blood and blood components. The responsibilities of those who collect, process, and issue blood for

transfusion are tremendous.

The safety of blood transfusion is directly proportional to the knowledge, skill, and sense of responsibility of the laboratory technicians. It is not sufficient to establish appropriate procedures and techniques. Continuous instruction and training are required to assure the highest quality and safety in performance of blood bank procedures. That is why in this subcourse, instruction is concerned with blood donor center and transfusion service

activities, including preparation of blood products for transfusion therapy.

Subcourse Components:

This subcourse consists of three lessons, a glossary of blood banking terms and definitions, six annexes, a bibliography, and an examination. The lessons are:

Lesson 1, Donor Suitability and Blood Collection.

Lesson 2, Component Processing, Testing, Labeling, Storage, and Distribution.

Lesson 3, Compatibility Testing and Blood Transfusion.

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