

Emergency use group O red blood cells (RBC)

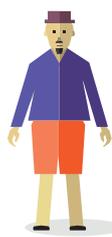


O RhD Positive:

**Female
> 50 years**



**Male
> 18 years**



O RhD Negative:

**Female
≤ 50 years**



**Male
≤ 18 years**



**or
UNKNOWN
sex or age**



Emergency use RBC are **NOT RISK FREE**
Use group specific/crossmatched blood wherever possible



CHECK for a valid group and screen/crossmatch and transfusion history



Take a pretransfusion sample **BEFORE** giving emergency blood



MOVE to group specific/crossmatched RBC ASAP



ASSESS the clinical requirement for holding emergency use group O RBC



ROTATE emergency use group O RBC on a regular basis



AUDIT emergency group O RBC use



INVESTIGATE incidents of inappropriate emergency group O RBC use and/or wastage



REPORT antibody formation/transfusion reactions after emergency group O RBC use to local and state haemovigilance program



PRESERVE O RhD negative blood for those that have no alternative

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Blood Matters <bloodmatters@redcrossblood.org.au>.

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