

SAVE



A WEEK

Top Tips when considering O D Negative RBC in Satellite Fridges

1.	<p>Is the emergency blood being used? <i>Audit the usage of RBC taken from this fridge to see if the demand warrants the stock held. Where demand is low consider removing O D Negative RBC from the fridge.</i></p>
2.	<p>Do the procedures supported from this satellite fridge require emergency blood? <i>Review the type of treatments / operations taking place, less serious procedures may not warrant holding O D Negative RBC in this fridge.</i></p>
3.	<p>Could red cells be collected from another location to meet the clinical situation? <i>Consider and test procedures to provide RBC from other fridges. If these procedures can provide blood in time for the clinical situations taking place consider removing O D Negative RBC from this fridge.</i></p>
4.	<p>Do the patient demographics include adult women under 50? <i>If the patient demographics do not include women under 50 consider holding a stock of O D Positive rather than O D Negative. Even where these women are present consider reducing the O D Negative stock and providing O D Positive units.</i></p>
5.	<p>Are the patients of known blood group? <i>If the blood held in this fridge is for patients of known blood group (e.g. theatre), with minimal transfusions that are un-planned, consider supplying O D Positive or removing O D Negative RBC from the fridge.</i></p>
6.	<p>How much emergency blood should this satellite fridge hold? <i>Regularly review the stock held in individual fridges and adjust stock to meet demand.</i></p>
7.	<p>Are stock rotation procedures robust? <i>Use defined stock levels and age of units to rotate blood from the satellite fridge. Return these units to the hospital stock with suitable time to expiry so they can be allocated and appropriately used.</i></p>
8.	<p>Does everybody help and support the procedures in place? <i>Consider targeted training amongst specific staff groups. Although everybody should know and actively support policies they may be best supported by specific staff.</i></p>
9.	<p>Publicise and encourage best practice <i>Raise awareness, discuss examples and stories of best practice. Perhaps try competitions to see who can save the most O D Negative units.</i></p>
10.	<p>Instil a culture of positive stock management with a particular focus on reducing the use of O D Negative RBC units to all staff.</p>