

Red Cell Contamination in Platelets and Apheresis Granulocytes

Vitalant prepares apheresis platelets by a method known to result in a component containing <2mL of red cells and inspects for red cell contamination present in all platelet components. If a platelet unit appears abnormally pink or red, Vitalant determines the volume of RBC present in each component. If more than 2 mL of RBC are present in the product, a sample tube labeled with the Donor Identification Number is supplied for the purpose of crossmatch with the recipient's plasma. The current method to collect granulocytes is known to produce a product with more than 2 mL of RBC present. The hospital should have a policy that granulocyte collections should be ABO compatible and must be crossmatched with the recipient's plasma.

This is in compliance with:

- **AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, 33rd edition**
 - **Standard 5.15.5:** The red cells in Apheresis Granulocytes and Platelets shall be ABO-compatible with the recipient's plasma and be crossmatched as in Standard 5.16 unless the component is prepared by a method known to result in a component containing < 2 mL of red cells. The donor blood cells for the crossmatch may be obtained from a sample collected at the time of donation.
- **College of American Pathologists (CAP) TRM. 40760 Granulocytes And/OR Platelets Crossmatch-Compatible**
 - The red cells in granulocytes and/or platelets are crossmatch-compatible with the recipient's plasma, except when the component contains less than 2 mL of donor red cells.
Note: If a platelet unit appears abnormally pink or red, the contaminating red cell volume can be determined to assess whether crossmatching is required.