

LSU Health Sciences Center
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Critical Values in the Transfusion Services Department

Listed below are the critical values that need to be reported to the clinician or his designee (resident, fellow or R.N. in charge of the patient). These results should be documented under the patient's accession number, on the transfusion reaction form, or the bulletin board if the situation involves a blood shortage or unavailable product.

1. Acute hemolysis during a transfusion reaction evaluation.
2. Incompatible crossmatch completed after emergency issue of uncrossmatched red blood cells.
3. Unacceptable specimens because of wrong blood in tube identified by comparison with historic type.
4. Positive test for fetomaternal hemorrhage.
5. Delays in providing blood and/or blood components for transfusion or surgery.
6. Incompatible donor RBC units when transfusion is urgently needed.

Reference: AABB News, November 2007