



**MEMORANDUM #64**

TO: UNC Hospitals, Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Nursing Coordinators,  
Department Heads and Supervisors

FROM: *YAP* Yara A. Park, MD, Director, Blood Banking/Transfusion Laboratory  
*HC* Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD, Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

**SUBJECT: Required Confirmation of Patient's ABO type beginning May 19, 2015**

DATE: April 27, 2015

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One of our accrediting agencies, the College of American Pathologists, is requiring that institutions confirm a patient's ABO type if the patient does not have a previous blood type in the blood bank computer system. The second type must be done on a second sample collected at a separate phlebotomy.

Starting May 19<sup>th</sup>, after the completion of the scheduled TMS system downtime (see TMS #63 Numbered Memo), the computer system will be set-up to require the second check-type sample. After the system comes back up, when TMS receives a type and screen (T&S) sample with a Prepare RBC request (or patient has an active T&S and TMS gets an order for Prepare RBC), TMS will immediately check for a previous ABO type on the patient. If there is NOT a previous type, TMS staff will call the floor or clinic with the patient and ask for another pink top tube with an order for a blood type only. While the second sample is being drawn, TMS will begin the T&S on the first sample. Once the second sample is in TMS, an ABO type only, which takes approximately 5 minutes to complete, will be performed and if types match, the units will be ready after the screen is complete on the first sample.

Please direct any questions to Dr. Yara Park, 984-974-1780, in TMS.