

Have a national Rare Donor Program: Yes

Number of Donors in Database: Rare donor code '6260': 1849 donors coded

Definition of Rare: A donation/RBC is considered to be rare if:

 the given phenotype is found in less than approximately 0.02% of the population. The donor can be negative for a high incidence antigen(s) and/or can be negative for an uncommon antigen combination.

and

• the antibodies associated with the given antigen(s) may cause clinically significant transfusion reactions and/or hemolytic disease of the fetus or newborn (HDFN)



- Number of units in frozen inventory: 1,250
- Approximate number of frozen units thawed annually: 30-100



Most difficult types to find: - Di (b-) - PP1P^k negative



ISBT WORKING PARTY ON RARE DONORS

Canada – Canadian Blood Services

• Other items of interest:

CBS Phenotyping Project

- Project to enhance phenotyping
 - Used to be done at each individual centre
 - Done by different departments with different methods
 - Different levels of accessibility to customers
- Consolidate testing into the donor testing labs
 - Standardize testing and service provision
 - Increase or maintain service to all customers
- Goal to increase phenotyped donor base to 35% over 5 years
 - C, E, c, e, K1, Fya, Fyb, Jka, Jkb, S and s



CBS Phenotyping Project

- Whole blood donors with at least 3 donations
- O Pos/Neg, A Pos/Neg, and B Neg donors
- Increasing R1R1 (DCe/DCe) and R2R2 (DcE/DcE) Rh positive donors
- Performing extended antigen screening for Rh negative donors
- Confirming once-phenotyped donors on subsequent donation so antigen typing can be on the unit label
- Will increase multi-antigen negative rare units

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Frozen Blood Project

- Model has been to have 7 frozen inventories
- Based mostly on local needs
- Different strategies for choosing which to freeze
- Different strategies for updating inventory
- Freezing too many of certain types of units, failing to freeze some desirable units
- Decided to come up with program to develop national strategy for frozen blood
 - National inventory based on common strategy