



Pre-Surgical Type and Screen Validity

Effective 5/4/2026, the Blood Bank is updating the policy for pre-surgical patients with a positive antibody screen.

What is changing:

- The validity of a Type and Screen for patients with a positive antibody screen will be limited to 3 days (72 hours).
- The previous allowance extending these studies up to 30 days will no longer apply to patients with identified antibodies.

Patients with positive antibody screens are at increased risk for changes in antibody status over time. Limiting the Type and Screen validity ensures the most accurate antibody identification and crossmatching at the time of transfusion.

Patient safety benefits include:

- Reduced risk of unexpected antibodies
- Improved transfusion compatibility
- Decreased risk of transfusion reactions
- Safer blood product selection for surgical patients

This change supports our ongoing commitment to patient safety and high-quality transfusion practices. Please ensure pre-operative testing is coordinated accordingly to avoid surgical delays.

Inquiries can be directed to:

Sajini Mathew MD, TriHealth Laboratories Medical Director, at sajini_mathew@trihealth.com
Angela Miller, Blood Bank Technical Specialist at angela_miller@trihealth.com

Medical Directors, TriHealth Laboratories

Sajini Mathew MD—Bethesda North Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, TriHealth Anderson, Good Samaritan Western Ridge, TriHealth Kenwood

Megan Smith MD—Bethesda Arrow Springs, Bethesda Butler Hospital, McCullough Hyde Memorial Hospital