

Bombay Blood Group - An Entity Hurdle to Get

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1. Introduction

The ABO system is the most important of all blood groups in transfusion practice. In general population, prevalence of Bombay blood group is about 1:10,000 in India. It is very difficult to supply in emergency situation. The feasibility and economics still doubtful in a diverse population, also donors may have to travel long distances.

The discovery of blood group by Binde et al in Bombay was important in the field of immunohematology. It is important to be cautious in the ABO blood type to detect H antigen which is a precursor to A and B antigens.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 1) To create awareness of rare blood group.
- 2) To approach and deal towards Bombay phenotype blood units.

3. Material and Methods

A 48 yrs illiterate male donated in our blood centre and it was his first time donation and unaware he is Bombay (Oh) Rh (D)+ve group. To confirm it, anti-H lectin included in cell grouping and inhibition test performed for determination of secretor status. Regarding availability Bombay (Oh) Rh (D)+ve unit, details was communicated through online sites and others (Red people society persons and Needy society) and also nearby blood centres were informed. On 12 th day we had received a telephone call from a relative whose patient (35yrs female) admitted for operative procedures. The unit was issued as per our institutional SOP.

4. Results

Delay of 12 days after notifying this group (constant follow up).

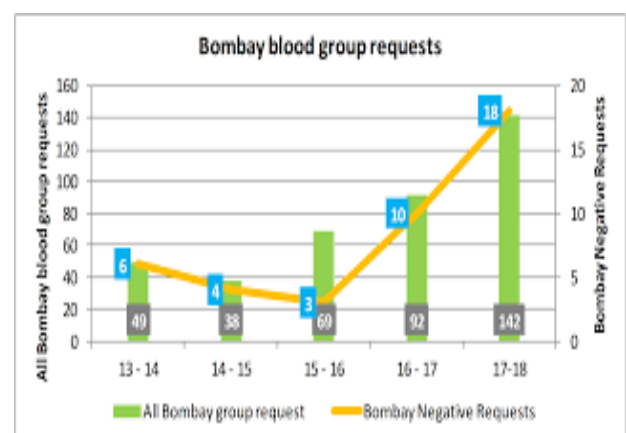
5. Discussion

The most important finding of present study was detection of Bombay blood group in a donor who has donated first time and who was unaware of his blood group. The availability of this rare group communicated through online sites, needy society and information given to nearby blood centres. The statistical analysis of the blood banks around Nandyal are also included in this study. In Kurnool district, around 05 cases of this rare blood group in 3 yrs were noted. The issue of this rare group has taken delay of 12 to 15 days after

meticulous followup. Among five bags, one unit of blood was expired. All these facts indicate that there were no sufficient proper channels to pass on the information and to issue for the needy. As per Sankalp India Foundation Wide reach: Bombay blood group requests were received from 15 states and 1 from outside the country.



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Steady increase in the demand for Bombay blood group units has been a result of sustained attempts to sensitise blood banks about this rare blood groups. With the number

of requests we receive, it is clear that the blood group may not be as rare as it is thought to be.

6. Conclusion

Creating awareness about the rare groups to the public through various media and social networks is important. To create awareness among various government and private hospitals is mandatory. Therefore maintaining .Bombay phenotype donor registry is of paramount importance in order to save these patients. Options like cryopreservation or calling donors should also be considered. Government should take steps to include the blood group in Aadhar cards.

References

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