

**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

**Memorandum**

Date: June 27, 2001

From: Director, Clinical Specialties Service (192-4)

Subj: Workarounds for Vista 5.2 Accessioning Problems

To: Blood Bank Supervisors (113)

Thru: Chief Consultant, Diagnostic Services SHG(115)

1. As part of its Corrective and Preventative Action (CAPA) process, the Blood Bank Modernization (BBM) team is developing a patch to correct problems identified during investigation of two chronic user error complaints. Below is an overview of the identified problems:
  - i. **Problem # 1:**

There have been ongoing issues when there are multiple specimens accessioned on a patient. The problem was exacerbated with the release of Laboratory Patch LR\*5.2\*221 which modified lab functionality to no longer remove from the system the record of cancelled accessions but assign a status of "Not Performed" when accessions and orders are cancelled.
  - ii. **Problem # 2:**

NOIS calls have been placed detailing a null subscript error at SET+1^LRBLRCT, which is the routine that produces the Crossmatch:Transfusion report [LRBLRCT]. These NOIS have appeared randomly since v 5.2 was released. Upon investigation of the error, it is always found that there is a record associated with an entry in the BLOOD INVENTORY File (#65) that has a crossmatch episode with no XMATCH result entered. During data entry of crossmatch results using the option Enter crossmatch results [LRBLPX], the BLOOD INVENTORY File (#65) fields XMATCH TECH (#65.02,.05) and DATE/TIME CROSSMATCHED (#65.02,.09) are populated (transparent to the user) prior to data entry of a crossmatch result. If the user decides to abort the process of data entry of the crossmatch, the previously populated fields remain associated with the unit, resulting in the incomplete record.
2. The following workarounds are to be implemented until an appropriate patch can be developed, tested and released:

**Problem:** Under certain conditions, an ABO and/or Rh result of ND is not evaluated properly.

**Workaround:** Do not use the option Enter test data [LRBLPET] to enter results of ND for the ABO and Rh for an accession that is not used. The option Remove an accession [LRDELOG] should be used to indicate that the specimen/accession will

not be used. This option allows one or more tests associated with the accession to be assigned a status of "Not Performed".

**Problem:** When there are multiple specimens available for crossmatch on a patient AND a barcode scanner is used in the option Select units for patients [LRBLPIC] to scan the product code barcode at the Blood component for unit selection: prompt, the system does not display all of the available specimens to allow selection of the appropriate one for crossmatch. The system automatically associates units selected with the most recent specimen.

**Workaround:** Do not use a barcode scanner to scan the product code label at the Blood component for unit selection: prompt in the option Select units for patients [LRBLPIC]. Type in the name of the component manually. A scanner can still be used to read the Unit ID barcode when using this option.

**Problem:** Crossmatch results on units selected for a patient are unable to be entered. A valid specimen and test results were entered. The computer displays a message saying that there are no ABO &/or Rh results and no Antibody Screen results.

**Workaround:** The options Delete entire order or individual tests [LRCENDEL], and Remove an accession [LRDELOG] formerly removed all traces of cancelled orders and accessions. After installation of Laboratory patch LR\*5.2\*221 these activities remain on the system with a status of "Not Performed". This has caused confusion when using the option Select units for patients [LRBLPIC] when assigning units for crossmatch. The following example may help explain the issue:

Patient Lastname,Firstname had two specimens collected for Type & Crossmatch, one of which was rejected. Test results were entered on the correct accession, but when selecting units for the patient, the wrong accession was chosen. See sample screen below.

US Select units for patients

Select Patient Name: Lastname,Firstname 5-20-23 000001245 NO  
NSC VETERAN

Lastname,Firstname. ID: 000-00-1245 Physician: CARR,MELODI B

Component(s) requested Units Request date/time Wanted date/time Requestor  
By

AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS 2 02/08/2001 08:28 02/08/2001 08:28 ME  
CM

Blood component for unit selection: AS-1 AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS 04210  
AS-1

1) 02/08/2001 08:20 Acc # BB 0208 2

2) 02/08/2001 08:18 Acc # BB 0208 1

Select patient blood sample (1-2): 2

**(NOTE:** Accession BB 0208 2 has results entered, but in the pick list, accession # 2 is choice # 1)

*When this happens, the error message/screen looks similar to the example below (capture edited for brevity, user input is boldfaced).*

**XM** Enter crossmatch results

Select Patient Name: **Lastname,Firstname** 5-20-23 000001245 NO  
NSC VETERAN

Lastname, Firstname 1245 O POS  
Unit for XMATCHING Exp date Loc

- 1) 045412345 AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS POS 02/26/01 Blood Bank  
No patient ABO &/or Rh results  
No antibody screen results (spec date:02/08/01 08:18 acc#:1)
- 2) 047699003 AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS O POS 02/26/01 Blood Bank  
No patient ABO &/or Rh results  
No antibody screen results (spec date:02/08/01 08:18 acc#:1)

Select units (1-2) to enter XMATCH results: 1

- 1) 045412345 AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS O POS 02/26/01 Blood Bank  
No patient ABO &/or Rh results  
No antibody screen results (spec date:02/08/01 08:18 acc#:1)

Sorry, must have ABO/Rh results to enter XMATCH results

To correct the situation, it is necessary to unselect the units associated with the specimen. In order to do this, the component order must be deleted and re-entered using option Blood component requests [LRBLPCS]. See sample screen capture below (edited for brevity):

**CR** Blood component requests

Select Patient Name: **Lastname,Firstname** 5-20-23 000001245 NO  
NSC VETERAN

Lastname,Firstname. ID: 000-00-1245 Physician: CARR,MELODI B

Component(s) requested Units Request date/time Wanted date/time Requestor  
By  
AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS 2 02/08/2001 08:28 02/08/2001 08:28 ME  
CM

Select BLOOD COMPONENT REQUEST: AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS // @  
(Typing in the @ removes this request.)

SURE YOU WANT TO DELETE THE ENTIRE BLOOD COMPONENT  
REQUEST? Y (Yes)

Select BLOOD COMPONENT REQUEST: **AS-1 RED BLOOD CELLS**  
04210 AS-1 1

(NOTE: You must now re-add the request. Continue with original order  
information.)

Once this has been completed, the option Select units for patients [LRBLPIC] must  
be re-executed to select appropriate units, being careful to associate them with the  
correct accession

3. VHA transfusion services are directed to post, provide notice of these workarounds to its  
employees and to incorporate them into their daily business practices.

