

ABID CASE #20

1. What is the probable identity of this antibody(ies)? Is it an autoantibody or an alloantibody?

The plasma reacts less strongly with group O cord RBCs and adult group O cells that lack the I antigen, than with normal adult O cells. In addition, there is a gradient in the strength of reactivity with adult RBCs in the 17⁺ panel, with the group O cells reacting most strongly, the A2 cell reacting less strongly, and the 3 A1 cells failing to react. Also note that the autocontrol (patient is group A) is reacts more weakly than the panel group O cells. This pattern is characteristic of anti-IH specificity.

2. Why were the patient blood group phenotypes done?

The patient was phenotyped for multiple antigens against which cold-reactive antibodies are often directed, and which might have caused incompatibility at the immediate spin phase of testing.

3. How would you select compatible blood for this patient?

Crossmatches with group A units were negative. The group O units were originally crossmatched because transfusion was felt to be urgent, and the crossmatches were set up at the same time as the "type-and-screen".