

Topic:	What's Your Type (WYT) Canadian Blood Services
Effective:	September 2010
Cross Reference:	Canadian Blood Services "What's Your Type?" National Standards Reference Manual
Revision Date:	September 2018; January 2021
Review Date:	September 2028
Responsibility:	Superintendent of Education

INTENDED PURPOSE:

The Halton District School Board is committed to the safety and well-being of all students and staff. Through the Canadian Blood Services (CBS) "What's Your Type?" (WYT) program, students are introduced to ABO and Rh blood typing and student awareness of the topic of blood donation is increased. The WYT program provides an unique opportunity to increase student engagement as students extend their learning of secondary school Biology and general science into a real-world context. It also encourages students to consider blood donation, once old enough, as a personal act of community service that they may choose to undertake throughout their lifetime.

PROCEDURES

The teacher must remain present throughout the entire WYT presentation and blood typing activities.

In addition to the teacher, there must be a minimum of 2 trained Canadian Blood Services WYT personnel present during any student blood typing activity, one of whom should be a CBS staff supervisor. At least one of these personnel must be trained in Emergency First Aid. Current certification for Emergency First Aid must be maintained by the designated WYT First Aid personnel.

Training of Canadian Blood Services personnel includes:

- Training to the WYT National Standards Reference Manual including ABO Rh typing
- Training to the WYT curriculum program presentation
- Annual recertification training
- Re-certification for ABO Rh Typers if personnel have not performed finger pricking or blood typing for a period of 6 months or longer

Blood Typing may be done at a Canadian Blood Services facility or in an appropriate classroom. Classroom facilities should include sufficient chairs for all students to remain seated throughout typing activities and access to washrooms to facilitate hand washing.

Gloves must be worn when handling blood and performing blood typing. Gloves must be changed and hands cleansed after each finger prick as per Canadian Blood Services hand hygiene policy.

The finger is pricked once and only one sample is taken with a capillary tube. This sample is immediately used to test for blood type.

Other than providing a sample, teachers and students are not to participate in the collection, testing or disposal of blood samples.

Canadian Blood Services assumes responsibility for the collection, removal and transportation of all biomedical waste from WYT events.

Any adverse reactions to the blood typing procedure will be addressed immediately by CBS personnel. Any incidents are to be documented by WYT personnel and reported to Regional Donor Services and Regional Director of Canadian Blood Services.

Any adverse reactions to the blood typing procedure will be reported and submitted using the Student Accident Report form as per the instructions on the form.

Any critical injury must be reported **immediately** as per the instructions on the Student Accident Report form.

Student Qualifications:

Students actively participating in WYT activities must be 17 years of age or older (those under 17 years of age in the class may observe).

Students under the age of 18 years old require parental consent to participate in blood typing activities. Canadian Blood Services requires that all students must submit the Program Consent form available on the WYT Registration Form before they will be allowed to participate. The teacher will either photocopy the consent form for their records, or may use an additional school-generated consent form.

School staff need to be aware that some students may request to be exempt from this program, ie. for reasons of faith and/or other personal reasons, and should be accommodated. Students who do not wish to participate do not need a note from their parents and need only a verbal request to be exempt. Students who do not participate must be supervised and staff are not required to provide an alternative program.