

Hospital Buyer

News for healthcare procurement decision makers

Genetic Blood Test Reduces Likelihood of Mismatched Transfusions



Progenika, Incorporated [developed a new genetic blood test](#), BLOODchip, which sharply reduces the opportunity for mismatched transfusions. The test is now being introduced in the United States as described in the launch covered by Clinical Lab Products.

The Bloodchip was designed by a group of the leading blood banks and research institutions in Europe, the Bloodgen Consortium. The genetic test determines nine blood types simultaneously, as well as analysis of RhD typing. RhD typing is important in that it captures variations from missense mutations, deletions, and gene conversions. Those sort of factors can contribute to difficulty typing patients with conventional serologic methods.

Trials to validate the product's clinical utility were completed in Europe, those were presented at the recent annual meeting of the American Association of Blood Banks. 1,000 different specimens from patients and donors, including newborn infants, were assessed with the Bloodchip.

Findings indicated that this test method is superior to serology, which is the current gold standard to assess donor compatibility for blood tests. Only two of the genotypes were incorrectly determined with Bloodchip. Between the two different testing methods, there were 42 discrepancies; forty matched the blood type identified with the Bloodchip.

Patients who receive multiple blood transfusions are more susceptible to mismatches, as well as pregnant women and patients with type D-negative blood.

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