



# Laboratory News

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## **SPECIMEN EXPIRATION DATE**

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Effective August 4th, the Lab Transfusion Service at MMC - Eau Claire, Marshfield, Minocqua, Park Falls, Rice Lake, and Weston implemented a new “Specimen Expiration Date” result that appears as part of Type and Antibody Screen results.

This “Specimen Expiration Date” will allow a provider or RN to easily view if a previous blood bank sample (e.g. Type & Screen) is still acceptable for RBC transfusion and avoid the need for additional sample collection.

Current Policies for Type and Screen Sample Expiration:

- Type & Screen (T&S) samples collected on inpatients have a 3-day expiration timeframe from date of collection (e.g. drawn on 5/25/2020 at 2100 will expire on 5/28/2020 at 2359).
- Pre-op Type and Screen ordered on outpatients typically has up to a 30-day expiration depending on date of surgery and whether or not the patient has been transfused or pregnant within the 3 months prior to date of surgery.

In Cerner, the Specimen Exp Date result will post under the Antibody Screen Interpretation (ABSC Interp).



**BEYOND numbers**

The screenshot shows a Cerner EHR interface with a 'Recent Results' tab selected. The 'Blood Bank Results' section is expanded, showing a 'Quick View' of results for a sample collected on 06/23/20 09:04 CDT. The results include ABO/Rh: B POSITIVE, ABSC Interp: NEG, and Specimen Exp Date: 06/26/2020 23:59. Two callout boxes with arrows point to the collection date and the expiration date.

Quick View	06/23/20 09:04 CDT
Blood Bank Results	
ABO/Rh	B POSITIVE
ABSC Interp	NEG
Specimen Exp Date	06/26/2020 23:59

### Questions:

- Further questions may be directed to Kathy Puca, MD or Clint Borek, Manager, Transfusion Service.
- Phone number: 800-222-5835.