

# BloodNotes

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## Serology education to improve transfusion practice

Dr. Matthew Yan, hematologist and transfusion medicine specialist with Canadian Blood Services, recently led a project to help standardize red blood cell (RBC) serology education and fill learning gaps for post-graduate medical hematology trainees in Canada.

The objective of the project, which is funded through the [BloodTechnet award](#), was to create an Internet-based tool to deliver curriculum about blood groups and antibodies. This tool would be useful for blood bank and medical laboratory technologists, and it could serve as a library of interesting antibody cases to help people share their expertise and knowledge.

The courses in this tool introduce individuals to immunohematology and the foundations of blood bank compatibility testing. Trainees that complete this course should be able to do the following:

- Describe the principles of RBC agglutination
- Interpret the results of an ABO/RhD grouping test
- Perform a simple antibody investigation, and
- Outline an approach to selecting RBC units for patients with autoantibodies and other complex transfusion needs.

The tool that was developed by Dr. Yan's team is [Learn Serology](#). It's an online curriculum with six modules that includes an interactive module for completing an RBC antibody investigation panel. The course contains the following modules:

- Module 1: Basics of Immunohematology
- Module 2: Group and Screen and Crossmatch
- Module 3: Minor Blood Group Antigens
- Module 4: Approach to Antibody Investigations
- Module 5: Approach to Autoantibody Investigations
- Module 6: Miscellaneous Topics

Interested trainees and technologists hoping to improve their transfusion practices could log on to [Learn Serology](#) to take these courses.

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