ISBT WORKING PARTY ON RARE DONORS

FRANCE

Have a national Rare Donor Program: Yes

Number of Donors in Database: 1780

Definition of a donor: ≥ 1 cryopreserved RBC unit

Definition of Rare: Prevalence < 1/250

Legal definition, which only considers the rare specificity prevalence (not the associated type)

Number of Frozen Rare Cells: 6315 (-80°C)
How are Rare Donors found?:

- **Extended phenotype** in ~15% of new blood donors: Rh (C,E,c,e), Kell (K), Duffy (Fya,Fyb), Kidd (Jka,Jkb), MNS (M,N,S,s)
  Optional: k and Luα typing if K+ or Lu(b+), respectively
- **Mass screening RBC typing** (e.g. Yt(a-) and Vel-)
- **Study of patients** with an antibody to a high-prevalence antigen
- **Incident finding in a patient** when extended phenotype or genotype is performed
- **Sibling testing**
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Number of Rare Donor units used per year:

309 RBC units (56 patients) in 2011

4.7 RBC units/million inhabitants/year

Shipping Outcome form used?: No
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Most difficult types to find:

**U-** O, D-C-E-, K-, Fy(a-b-), Jk(b-) (4 donors)

**Fy(a-b-)** O, D-C-E-, K-, Jk(b-), S-s+, Js(a-), VS- (8 donors; 3 donors if M- and 1 donor if M-,Do(a-))

**Vel-** O, E-c-, K- (2 donors)

**Rh null** (1 donor, group A) and **D - -** (5 donors)

**Hr-** (5 donors) and **HrB-** (11 donors)

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Other items of interest:

- No time limit in France for RBC storage at -80°C
- RBC units drawn after 2005: 7-day outdate after thawing
- 2007-2012: 3% of thawed RBC units shipped abroad: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland
- Cost of one rare thawed RBC unit: ~400 euros (500 $), vs ~200 euros for a standard fresh RBC unit