

At present, the American National Red Cross maintains a separate clearing house program for its regional blood centers. Some blood banks have reciprocity with each other through the Red Cross system; others through the AABB. Currently, two AABB district clearing houses have reciprocity agreements with the Red Cross in their area. However, the need for a standard national reciprocity system for all five clearing houses between the AABB and the ANRC is recognized, and negotiations are underway to develop such a plan.

In summary, the National Clearing House Program of the American Association of Blood Banks is providing an effective service for donors and patients, yet there is a great amount of work and development to be done before it reaches its greatest effectiveness and efficiency.

As a closing thought, with people traveling so extensively and their encountering accidents and developing illness which require blood therapy, it is within the realm of possibility that some day we may see an International Blood Bank Clearing House System.

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The Role of Blood Banks in Major Heart Surgery

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Abstract

An audio-visual presentation of our laboratory methods of procuring, processing and distributing adequate quantities of compatible blood to hospitals performing major heart surgery. A cardiac surgeon's remarks on, and his description of, the technical aspects involved in the use of the pump oxygenator system. A continuous film strip of forty-one 35 mm colored slides showing the various steps in blood procurement and processing, the heart-lung machine administration and operating theater scenes.