



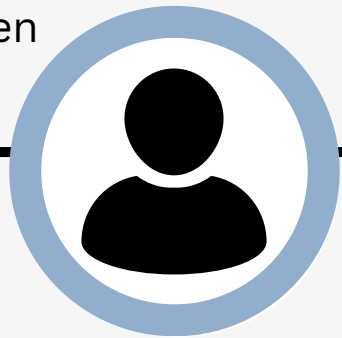
Blood Transfusion Sample Labelling Procedure

A GUIDE FOR GENERAL PRACTICE



1. Consultation

- Sample taker must be trained/competent in taking Group and screen (G&S) samples (AKA crossmatch).
- Confirm patient identity with 2 unique identifiers - Ask the patient to state their Name and D.O.B
- Confirm reason for appointment
- Ensure you have:
 - blood transfusion sample form
 - Pink - EDTA Crossmatch Sample tube (ensure in date)
 - Black pen



2. Request Form

- Complete the request form before venepuncture
- Label/handwrite patient identifier section of the blood transfusion sample form.
- If the patient is for a transfusion state What/When/Where
- **Red Cells:** Date req/ Time Req /Ward
- Form must be signed by whoever is authorising the test (for G&S this can be the sample taker, for transfusions this must be a Dr)



3. Clinical Details

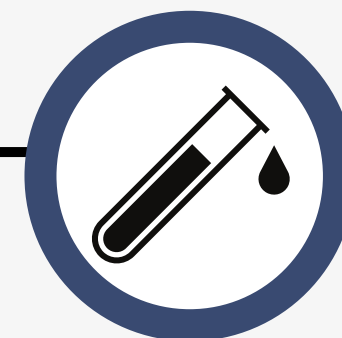
Supply relevant clinical details - if the patient has an operation please state

- what surgery
- where
- when
- or TCI date not yet known



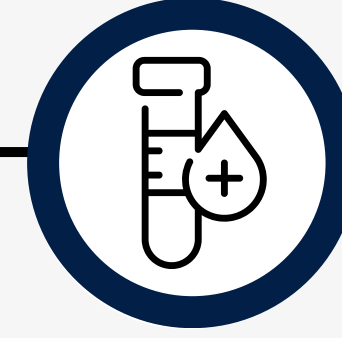
4. Sample Taking

- Mix sample well by inverting 8-10x
- Samples are valid for 72hrs or 7days depending on recent transfusion or pregnancy.
- Allow sufficient time for lab to process samples.
- A second handwritten sample is req before blood can be issued for patients with no historical blood group



5. Blood Tube labels

- Hand write tubes beside the patient
- Ask the patient to check their **Name** and **D.O.B** on the sample tube
- Ensure the **SAME** unique number is on the tube and form (NHS Number)
- Sample taker **MUST SIGN** the blood tube



Reasons for sample rejection

- Amendments on tubes
- Addressograph labels on tubes
- Mismatches between form and tube
- Illegible smudged writing
- Missing letters (on label on form)
- Unsigned tubes

