Name of Policy: Blood Transfusion Identification

Wristbands

Policy Number: 3364-107-104

Approving Officer: Medical Director, Clinical

Pathology

Responsible Agent: Director, Clinical Pathology

Administrative Director, Lab

Scope: Pathology-Laboratory University of Toledo

Medical Center

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Effective date: 01/04/2025

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Key words: Procedure, blood transfusion, proper identification, wristband, type and screen.				
	New policy proposal		Minor/technical revision of existing policy	
	Major revision of existing policy		Reaffirmation of existing policy	

(A) Policy statement

The laboratory has a policy for unique identification of patients and specimens for compatibility testing in the form of Blood Transfusion Identification Wrist Bands.

(B) Purpose of policy

To ensure proper identification of patients who have orders for a type and screen or compatibility testing for blood transfusion.

(C) Procedure

- 1. Identify patient by name and number on hospital wrist band by scanning with mobile care phlebotomy device and ask patient to state his/her full name.
- 2. Explain the procedure to the patient.
- 3. Fill in all blanks on green wrist band at bedside at time specimen is drawn and before leaving the patient.
- 4. Obtain information from the patient's wrist band and use indelible ballpoint pen when filling out label on Blood Bank green wrist band. DO NOT use a felt tip pen for any of this labeling. When collecting transfusion specimens in the Emergency Department, make sure to document initials of employee who is collecting specimen and the second certified individual who is verifying information on armband and transfusion specimen.

- 5. Place the green wrist band on the patient's wrist to size and secure with snap closure. Peel off patient identification label and apply to specimen tube. Peel the protective liner from the shield and apply over patient information handwritten on band to protect from smears.
- 6. Instruct patient NOT to remove the green wrist band.
- 7. Wrist band MUST NOT be cut off until three (3) days following sample collection whether or not patient is transfused. The green wrist band expires at 23:59 three (3) days after collection.
- 8. Blood shall not be given if the patient is not wearing the green wrist band, or its numbers do not correspond with the green wrist band number on the unit of blood.
- 9. If there is any doubt on any of the procedures, call the Blood Transfusion Service, (extension 5212).

Approved by:

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Name: Amira Gohara, M.D. Title: Medical Director, Clinical

Pathology

1/10/2025

Date

Review/Revision Completed by:

Joshua Otiso, Administrative Director, Lab **Policies Superseded by This Policy:**

• *OP-4*

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