


Name of Policy: <u>Collection and Identification of Specimens</u> Policy Number: 3364-108-301 Department: Pathology/Laboratory – Blood Bank Approving Officer: Chief Operating Officer – UTMC Director, Blood Transfusion Service Responsible Agent: Blood Transfusion Service Supervisor Administrative Director, Lab Scope: Pathology/Laboratory – Blood Bank	 Effective Date: 03/20/2023 Initial Effective Date: 8/1986
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy	

(A) Policy Statement

The Blood Transfusion Service uses a unique system of patient and specimen identification. The system consists of numbered specimen labels with corresponding numbered patient bracelets.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To provide two independent identifiers linking the patient identification on the pretransfusion testing specimens to the crossmatched units and the intended transfusion recipient.

(C) Procedure

Section 1: Specimens for Compatibility Testing

The specimen required for pretransfusion testing is one 6-mL EDTA pink stoppered tube. The minimum amount required is 2 mL whole blood in EDTA tube for uncomplicated crossmatch. Use GREEN Blood Bank Armband system label with the patient's first and last names, ID number, time and date of the collection and initials of the phlebotomist obtaining the sample to label the tubes at the patient's bedside. The phlebotomist must attach the corresponding patient bracelet to the patient at the time of specimen collection. Specimens collected for other lab tests and relabeled at another time for compatibility testing are unacceptable. See Attachment #30-1A "Specimen Collection for Blood Transfusion Testing" for complete instructions.

When specimen is received in Blood Bank, compare the identification information on the "Request for Blood Transfusion" form or LIS specimen collection labels to the identification information on the specimen and confirm the information is in agreement prior to specimen acceptance (Log-in). Verify the phlebotomist's initials, date and time collected are on the specimen. This information may be obtained and verified by the phlebotomist and filled in by BTS personnel if not completed. However, if discrepancies or doubt about the identification of the specimen exist, or no phlebotomist personally verifies collecting the specimen, a new specimen must be obtained. Specimens from the Emergency Department or specimens from off-site locations are acceptable with at least First and Last name AND at least one of the following forms of unique ID matching: MRN, Date of Birth and BBID number. **All specimens must have two matching patient identifiers for acceptance.** When variances in the specimen collection process are noted, the phlebotomist receives a copy of "Specimen Collection for Blood Transfusion Testing" for re-education.

A blood type only (BLT) must be done and entered into BBIS prior to transfusion of type-specific plasma, as well as for patients receiving pooled cryoprecipitate or platelets. A labeled, anticoagulated specimen in original container from Hematology or Coag. (aliquoted specimens are unacceptable) may be used for this test since no pretransfusion specimen is required for each transfusion of platelets, plasma, and cryoprecipitate.

Section 2: Specimens for Other Blood Transfusion Service Tests

Green ID system Blood Transfusion Service labels are not required for specimens collected for tests other than compatibility testing. However, **all** specimens must be in original, stoppered containers labeled with the patient's first and last names, ID number, time and date of collection. Initials of the phlebotomist are documented either on the tube or are traceable in the LIS. Aliquot tubes are unacceptable for testing.

Section 3: Retention of Specimens

All specimens tested in the Blood Transfusion Service shall be retained for a minimum of 21 days. Specimens may be collected in Pre-Admission testing up to 30 days prior to surgery, if the recipient has had no pregnancy or transfusion in the preceding 3 months. These specimens are held for 7 days after transfusion.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p><u>/s/</u> _____ <u>03/21/2023</u> Lauren Stanoszek, M.D. Assistant Professor Director, Blood Transfusion Service Date</p> <p><u>/s/</u> _____ <u>03/21/2023</u> Christine Stesney-Ridenour Chief Operating Officer - UTMC Date</p> <p>Review/Revision Completed By: Danielle Weinau, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}</p>	<p>Review/Revision Date:</p> <p>6/96 6/9/2008 1/98 3/22/2011 3/99 3/01/2013 7/00 3/2/2015 9/02 3/1/2017 1/05 4/25/2018 1/2008 3/1/2019 3/1/2021 3/20/2023</p>
<p>Next Review Date: 3/1/2025</p>	
<p>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</p>	

Reference: AABB Standards for Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, current edition.