

**PROCEDURE FOR:** Blood Components: Type and Screen / Type and Cross-Match / ABO Rh Confirmation for Transfusion Purposes

- POLICY:**
1. Specimens for type and screen (T&S) / type and cross-match (T&C) are valid for 72 hours, with the following exceptions:
    - a. NICU patients: 4 months
    - b. Extended T&S/T&C for elective surgical patients: 28 days
  2. To minimize the possibility of a transfusion-related error, the phlebotomist will ask any patient who is mentally alert to state his or her name and date of birth prior to drawing the specimen.
  3. The phlebotomist who obtains the specimen for T&S/T&C must place their signature (not just initials) and date on the identification label and place the label on the blood collection tube at the patient's bedside. To assure patient safety, proper labeling of specimens for T&S/T&C will be considered of equal importance to checking blood components prior to administration.
  4. The signature on the specimen label indicates that the person drawing the blood has checked and assumed the responsibility that the identification on the tube matches the identification of the patient from whom the specimen is obtained. This information must also match the patient identification on the Blood Bank requisition.
  5. Any improperly labeled specimen will not be accepted by the Blood Bank. This includes any discrepancies between the patient information on the requisition form and on the specimen label. Without exception, the specimen must be redrawn.
  6. When specimens for T&S/T&C are received in the Blood Bank, the Blood Bank's computer data base will be checked for prior results. If the Blood Bank does not have an historical ABO/Rh type on the patient, the Blood Bank will notify the unit that a second specimen must be drawn before blood is cross-matched. This specimen must be drawn separately, at a different time than the original type and screen specimen. It is the responsibility of the clinician to determine if a transfusion will be needed and if a second specimen should be drawn in order to have cross-matched compatible blood available for issue.
  7. A properly labeled cord blood specimen will be acceptable as the ABO/Rh confirmation specimen only for newborn infants.

**EQUIPMENT:** Appropriate blood collection tube  
Appropriate blood drawing equipment  
Patient identification label  
Blood Bank Requisition (HCH-1262 for Type and Screen)  
Gloves  
Specimen transport bag

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PROCEDURE:

ACTION

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. If a Type and Screen is ordered, complete a Blood Bank Requisition (HCH-1262) Form. In Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE), an electronic order must be placed in order to generate the Blood Bank Requisition and label.</li><li>2. Compare the patient's name, medical record number and DOB appearing on the requisition form and patient's blood tube label.</li><li>3. <u>At the patient's bedside</u>, check that the patient's name and DOB on the requisition form and blood tube label are all exactly matched to the patient's hospital identification band.</li><li>4. Ask the mentally alert patient to state his or her name and date of birth prior to drawing the specimen.</li><li>5. Obtain blood specimen volume as indicated in the specimen collection manual.</li><li>6. <u>At the patient's bedside</u>, the person obtaining the specimen must place the identification label on tube. Date and sign the label.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The patient blood specimen label must contain the following minimum information:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Patient's first and last name.</li><li>2) Patient's medical record number.</li><li>3) Signature of individual obtaining the blood specimen.</li><li>4) Date specimen has been drawn.</li></ol></li></ol></li><li>7. Send properly labeled specimen and completed form(s) to the Blood Bank.</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. All information on the top line of the form must be completed to assure proper documentation of the draw.</li><li>2. If a discrepancy is noted, investigate prior to obtaining the blood specimen.</li><li>6. Signing the specimen assures that the person drawing the blood <u>checks and assumes the responsibility</u> that the identification on the tube matches the identification of the patient from whom the specimen is obtained.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The signature must be legible.</li></ol></li></ol> |
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8. Draw a second specimen for ABO Rh confirmation following the steps above, when ordered per request from Blood Bank.
8. This provides an added safety check for patients who are not identified in the Blood Bank's computer database. This specimen must be drawn separately, at a different time than the original type and screen specimen.

**APPROVAL:** Nursing Standards Committee  
Transfusion Committee  
Director, Transfusion Medicine

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 10/82

**REVISION DATES:** 3/86, 1/87, 8/88, 11/90, 7/93, 4/96, 6/96, 10/96, 3/97, 10/97, 3/99, 9/00, 5/05, 4/08, 7/08