

# Human Leucocyte Antigen (HLA) Matched Platelets

## Information for Healthcare Professionals

**Q. Why is a platelet count required after every HLA matched platelet transfusion?**

**A. To check that the platelet transfusion has been effective and to optimise future matches.**

Note: A platelet count to determine increment can be obtained **ten minutes** after completion of the transfusion<sup>1</sup>.

- Informing NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) of the patient's platelet count in this way helps ensure that the most effective platelets are selected for subsequent transfusions.
- Please ensure that a NHSBT 'Selected Platelets Follow-Up Form' is completed and returned to NHSBT after each HLA matched platelet transfusion.
- Failure to monitor the patient's response to HLA matched platelets compromises patient care with potentially inappropriate transfusions.

This label will indicate if the platelets are HLA matched



**For more information please contact your local Transfusion Practitioner or Transfusion Laboratory Manager**

<sup>1</sup> O'Connell B, Lee E.J., Schiffer C.A. The value of ten minute post transfusion platelet counts. *Transfusion* 1988; 28. 66-67.