

Taking a blood sample for pre-transfusion compatibility testing

Remember:

Positive patient identification

- Complete the request form, including specific requirements, before approaching the patient.
- Ask the patient to state their full name and date of birth.
- Check the information given matches exactly the details on the patient's ID band and request form.
- Patients must wear an ID band, or equivalent, with the following positive patient identifiers as a minimum:

Positive patient identifiers
First name
Last name
Date of birth
Unique patient identification number

Sample labelling

- Never pre-label sample tubes.
- Tube labels should be handwritten* by the person taking the sample before leaving the patient's side.
- Details should include surname and first name, date of birth and unique identification number.
- Only take samples from one patient at a time.

* For further information on electronic sampling processes, please refer to your Hospital Transfusion Policy.