

Top Tips for Ordering Blood Products

Principles to consider before transfusing your patient:

Make sure patient information on the form and blood sample match exactly.

Write the information legibly or use a patient sticker.

Make sure the doctor's name and contact number are written on the form in the event there is a complication.

Always include the date and time when the crossmatch blood sample was taken, along with who took the sample - the sample must be less than 48 hours old.

How to label a crossmatch blood sample

Use a 6ml or 4ml powder-coated EDTA tube.

Verify patient identity by asking their name and date of birth.

Label the tube after taking the sample but before leaving the bedside.

Place sticker vertically along the tube otherwise clearly write the patient's name and surname, along with another identifier (date of birth, ID number or hospital folder number).



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