

## 2 REQUESTS FOR PRE TRANSFUSION TESTING

Date Issued: January 2005  
Date Revised: February 2009  
Review Date: January 2011  
Authorised by: KEMH & PMH Transfusion Committees  
Review Team: KEMH & PMH Transfusion Committees

2.4 Inpatient Identification  
Section 2  
Transfusion Medicine Protocols  
Child & Adolescent & Women's & Newborn Health Services  
Perth Western Australia

### 2.4 INPATIENT IDENTIFICATION

#### General

Upon admission, patient information is verified and updated in TOPAS and a Patient Identity Band is attached to the patient.

It is Patient Information Management Services (PIMS) policy that if core patient identification details are updated in TOPAS an updated patient ID band must be attached to the patient and new patient labels placed in the medical record.

#### WARNING

**IF TOPAS AND THE PATIENT ID BAND ARE UPDATED AND THERE ARE ONGOING TRANSFUSION REQUIREMENTS A NEW GROUP AND HOLD AND/OR CROSSMATCH REQUEST MUST BE SENT TO BLOOD BANK IMMEDIATELY.**

#### Unknown Patients with On-Going Transfusion Needs

When the patient's identity is unknown, or cannot be accurately confirmed (e.g. unconscious), PIMS will admit the patient as "Unknown" under an emergency UMRN.

In these circumstances, the UMRN is the only identifier and transfusions should be restricted to emergencies only.

As soon as the patient is properly identified according to PIMS procedures:

- The new patient details must be registered in TOPAS.
- A new identity band must be attached to the patient but the old identity band should NOT be removed.
- A new fully labelled crossmatch sample must be sent to Blood Bank immediately.

PIMS staff will merge the TOPAS records once a reliable link is confirmed and inform the laboratory IT manager during normal working hours or the Shift Scientist out-of-hours.

#### Newborn Babies

Newborn babies are registered in TOPAS immediately after birth and baby patient ID bands and patient labels are printed.

The baby ID band (with baby UMRN) must be attached to the baby before Transfusion Medicine samples are drawn (Note: this does not apply to cord blood samples).

The sample must be hand labelled with THREE points of identification that match the baby ID band and TOPAS as follows:

- Baby UMRN
- Baby Last Name
- Baby First Name if this is registered in TOPAS (If no first name, DOB **must** be used)\*
- Date and time of collection plus the initials of collector.

- NOTE: In the case of multiple birth, if babies do not have a first name, use DOB **plus** identify on specimen by Twin I, Triplet II, etc.
- If a newborn baby is **registered** with a first name during the hospital admission, when the baby details are updated in TOPAS, **the new baby ID band and patient labels must be used** and old labels discarded. In this case, for patients with on-going transfusion needs, a new crossmatch sample should be sent to Transfusion Medicine.
- When labelling the neonatal tube it is essential that the label is **NOT** wrapped around the specimen tube thus obscuring the details and the fill line on the tube. Please ensure the label is attached horizontally along the tube so the details may be easily checked by subsequent staff handling the specimen. It is necessary to be able to view the blood volume in the specimen so a **visible gap** along the sample is a requirement. Wrapping the label around the specimen creates an issue in the laboratory as the label then has to be ripped/removed to allow centrifugation and separation of the sample, thus compromising patient ID.