

# Labeling of Blood Bank Specimens

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## Appropriate blood bank specimen tube types:

### Pink Top K2EDTA Tube



### Infants and small children



The person collecting the specimen assumes full responsibility for the correct identification of the patient. The specimen tube is to be labeled at the bedside from the patient's Hospital Identification band.

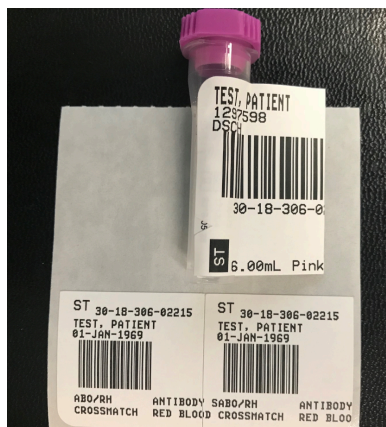
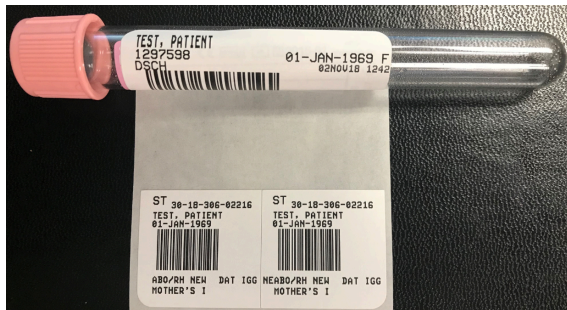
- **Information required for all Blood Bank specimens:**

1. Patient's complete first and last names (no nicknames)
2. Medical Record Number
3. Date of collection (may be captured in Cerner)
4. Time of collection (may be captured in Cerner)
5. Associate's Cerner ID (may be captured in Cerner using Cerner's Positive Patient Identification System) (physicians may sign their names)

So, in most circumstances (not during computer downtimes), the person drawing the BB specimen needs to make sure they are not using the small lab labels (aliquot labels) and that the following items are on the BB specimen tubes:

1. **Complete first name**
2. **Complete last name**
3. **MR#**

## Attaching specimen labels:



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## Example of patient name cut off:

The label must contain the patient's complete first and last name. Write in, as necessary, to complete the missing information.

## Excerpt from nursing policy, *Blood and Blood Product Administration*:

### Obtaining & Labeling a Blood Specimen

#### a. Appropriate Blood Bank Specimen

The specimen for blood bank testing is a pink top tube (K2EDTA) or a lavender top microtainer for infants. A full tube should be collected and mixed well.

#### b. Obtaining a Blood Bank Specimen

**The person collecting the specimen assumes full responsibility for the correct identification of the patient.** All patient specimens must be collected and labeled at the bedside. Ask the patient to state their name and date of birth. Confirm this information with the patient's Hospital Identification (HID) band and with any labels that will be attached to the specimen. Laboratory personnel or unit personnel may collect the specimen for appropriate testing.

#### c. Appropriate Labeling of the Blood Bank Specimen

**The specimen tube is labeled at the bedside from the patient's Hospital Identification band. The following information is required on the specimen:**

- Patient's **complete** first and last names (no nicknames)
- Medical Record Number
- Date of collection / Time of collection
- Associate's / Tech's number(s) (physicians may sign their names)

**Attaching specimen labels:** Do not cover the original label with any other labels, e.g., the computer generated labels must not cover handwritten or other labels.

**Rejected specimens:** Hemolyzed, clotted, and short draw specimens will be rejected. All specimens that are not properly and completely labeled will be rejected. If the label is not legible (name/number are illegible or partially cut off), it will be rejected. **For names or numbers that are partially cut off, write in, as necessary, to complete the missing information.** It will be necessary to redraw the specimen should it be rejected for any reason. Mis-labeled and mis-collected specimens will be reported via the Hospital's Online Event Reporting System (ERS).

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## SPECIMEN COLLECTION PROCESS

(To correctly perform PPID and PAID)

1. Make sure there is a patient lab test order label printer in the room to print lab/BB labels.
2. Go to Specimen Collection in PowerChart.
3. Scan QR BARCODE- located on the patient's armband (**Positive Patient ID= PPID**). A popup screen tells you what needs to be collected.
4. Collect the Patient's blood in the appropriate tubes.
5. Click the Printer icon on the order screen. Scan the barcode on your printer (in the room) to ensure selection of the correct printer. The labels will print for each specimen that needs to be collected. Label the specimens with the appropriate printed barcodes.
6. Scan each label barcode (**Positive Accession ID = PAID**).
7. Click **SIGN** at bottom right of screen to complete the collection process.

### NOTES:

- ❖ *All of these steps are to be performed at the same time, in the presence of the patient. Any deviation is a deliberate bypass of this safety feature.*
- ❖ *If the scanning is omitted or the final sign off is omitted, this will result in a PPID and/or a PAID override which may require the collection of a 2<sup>nd</sup> ABO confirmation specimen, if applicable.*
- ❖ *Do not print order labels ahead of time or at a printer not in the patient's presence.*
- ❖ *Do not collect Blood Bank specimens before orders are placed. Nursing may order a "BB Specimen to Hold" (this does not require a physician order and there is not a charge for this order) ahead of time to ensure PPID and PAID are both used appropriately.*
- ❖ *NEVER collect a second ABO specimen at the same time as the first Blood Bank specimen in anticipation of a 2<sup>nd</sup> ABO confirmation specimen being later requested/needed. These are to be collected at a different time and by a different person. This should be a NEVER event!*