

# Appendix # 4

## Patient Information: Identification Band for Pre-op Transfusion Blood Testing

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An orange band was placed on you following your pre-transfusion blood work. Inside the band is a label with a unique number on it. Here is some information about the band.

**Why do I need to wear this band?** The unique number on the band provides a link between your blood sample and any blood component that you may receive. By comparing the unique number on the blood component with the number on the band you are wearing, the blood component can be confirmed as compatible for you if you need a transfusion.

**How long must I leave the band on?** The band must be worn until removed by hospital personnel or after discharge. If you receive a blood transfusion or become pregnant during the time you are wearing the band, please tell the nursing staff when you are admitted for your transfusion or surgery. It may be necessary to repeat the testing.

**What if I remove the band?** If you are **not** wearing this band when you come in for your transfusion or surgery, the blood test will need to be repeated. This may cause a delay in your surgical procedure or medical treatment.

If you need to remove the band because of swelling or an allergic reaction, please notify the transfusion service/laboratory at the hospital where you are having the transfusion or surgery. You may need to have your blood test repeated and a new band applied before your transfusion or surgery. Please contact the Transfusion Service/Laboratory at the site where your surgery is scheduled to make the necessary arrangements.

**What are the bands made of?** The bands are made of strong plastic. They are latex free and do not contain any powder.

**What if water gets in the band?** The bands are water resistant. They should not get in the way of any of your normal activities. You may bathe, shower or even go swimming as usual.

### Questions?

**For further information about ID bands, please contact Transfusion Service/Laboratory at the site where your surgery is scheduled.**

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