

Blood transfusion identification

Why does my child need to wear an ID band at this time?

A blood sample will be obtained from your child before your child's surgery or scheduled transfusion. This sample will be used in a lab test called a type and crossmatch. This test determines your child's blood type and compatibility with a donated unit of blood.

An identification (ID) band will be put on your child's arm or leg, or **given to you at the time the blood sample is taken**. This is a safety measure to help ensure that your child can be properly identified when blood products are given.

What should I do?

Be sure the ID band is **on** your child's arm or leg when you bring him or her to the hospital or clinic for the scheduled surgery or transfusion. If the band is removed by the child, it needs to be brought with you to the hospital on the day of admission; otherwise the sample will need to be collected again. Specific numbers on your child's ID band will need to be compared to the numbers on the blood bag before the blood can be given.

If the ID band is not on your child, a new blood sample will need to be collected, and this can cause some delays for you and your child.

Thank you for your help with this important matter.

Questions?

If you have any questions, call the Blood Transfusion Service at:

Children's - Minneapolis (612) 813-6824

Children's - St. Paul (651) 220-6550

For more reading material about this and other health topics, please call or visit the Family Resource Center library, or visit our Web site: www.childrensmn.org.

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