
Glossary of Terms

Page 1 of 1

- Armband / Identification Band:** The identification band on the patient is usually an armband. It includes at minimum the name, PIN and date of birth of the patient.
- Course of Transfusions / Transfusion Event:** A series or sequence of transfusions administered to a person over a period of time for a particular health problem. (See Consent to Treatment Policy for additional information)
- Crossmatch:** Donor red cell units are matched to and tagged for a specific patient. A crossmatch should only be requested if transfusion of Red Blood Cells is imminent. If patient is having a procedure where red blood cells may be required, a Group and Reserve should be ordered. Crossmatching will be done when the blood is required.
- Current Hospital Admission:** The current admission period is the time from admission to discharge, but also includes up to a two month period from the time of preadmission testing up to the current admission.
- Group and Reserve:** (Group and Hold, G & R) Patient's specimen is grouped (ABO and Rh) and screened for red cell antibodies. Indate specimen can be crossmatched later, when/if required. Turn around time for crossmatching red cell units is <5 minutes if a Group and Reserve specimen is indate and the patient does not have antibody(ies).
- Label/Tag:** The identification on the blood product that indicates the name/PIN of the patient for which the unit is designated. In this document, they may be used interchangeably.
- London Laboratory Services Group (LLSG):** a joint venture of London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) and St. Joseph's Health Care (SJHC) London, Ontario. This venture was created in September 2000 to integrate diagnostic testing for both LHSC and SJHC and for more than sixty clients. LLSG provides a comprehensive range of routine and specialized laboratory testing including the Blood Transfusion Laboratory testing.
- Neonate:** An infant less than 4 months of age.
- Outdate:** Every Group and Reserve specimen is assigned an outdate. After this date, a new specimen is required for crossmatching.
- Phlebotomist:** Person drawing the specimen of blood for lab tests. This may be an RN, MD or person trained in phlebotomy. Phlebotomist is responsible for checking the identification of the patient and comparing the armband to the PowerChart labels (or requisition and addressograph label if tests were not ordered through PowerChart) ensuring that they are correct, complete, legible, and identical. Phlebotomist must sign PowerChart label or requisition indicating that all these checks were done.