

CARING FOR YOUR BLOOD BANK IDENTIFICATION BAND

The Blood Bank Identification Band is used to ensure your safety. It aids health care providers in positively identifying you before administering blood or blood products that are compatible with your blood type.

1. During your preoperative teaching appointment, you will be given one or two "Blood or Blood Component Transfusion" forms along with the Blood Bank Identification Band. **Keep these items safe until 24 to 72 hours prior to your surgery.**
2. **24 to 72 hours prior to your surgery, bring the form(s) and Identification Band to the Laboratory.**
3. Laboratory personnel will obtain a blood specimen and secure the Identification Band to your wrist.

Care must be taken to protect the information inscribed on the Identification Band. If the Blood Bank Identification Band is removed or the patient information becomes illegible, a new Identification Band must be issued and a new blood specimen must be drawn. This may result in a delay or even a cancellation of your procedure. Please take the following precautions to help protect the Blood Bank Identification Band:

1. **Do not alter any of the information on the Identification Band.**
2. **Do not remove the Identification Band.**
3. **Do not apply pressure to the Identification Band.**
 - The patient identification area of the band is a pressure sensitive carbon copy. Excess pressure can black-out your patient information and make the band illegible.
4. **Do not get the Identification Band wet.**
 - Water will cause the ink to run, making the Identification Band illegible. When showering, place your arm inside a plastic bag or glove, place a dry washcloth around the Identification Band, seal the bag with a rubber band and keep your arm elevated to prevent water from running onto the band.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the care of your Blood Bank Identification Band, please contact your health care provider or the laboratory at 360-475-4260.

Your signature indicated that you have read and understand the above instructions.

Patient: _____

Staff: _____