Outpatient Wrist banding of Patients Scheduled for Outpatient Transfusion, Cardiac Surgery, or Other Elective Surgery

All outpatients scheduled for an outpatient transfusion within three days, cardiac surgery within 21 days, or who present for pre-admission testing for surgery within 3 days, must be wrist banded at the time of specimen collection by the person who appropriately identifies the patient.

To properly identify the patient, the phlebotomist will ask the patient their first name, last name and date of birth. The patient is then wrist banded and the specimen collected. There may be circumstances that may not allow actual wrist banding. As an alternative, the outpatient will be provided with a stainless steel neck chain or cloth lanyard to which the labeled wristband is attached. This must be presented at the time of transfusion.

The request for transfusion may be presented in several ways:

1. **Type and Crossmatch (RCP)** – Signed RCP order in Unity to be released by collecting location. Scheduled transfusion date is within 3 days from the day of draw. **Patient must be wrist banded at the time of specimen collection.**

2. **Separate and Hold (SEP)** – Signed SEP order in Unity to be released by collecting location. This order may be converted to an RCP order (Type and Crossmatch) anytime within 3 days from the day of draw as long as the patient was wrist banded at the time of specimen collection.

3. **Type and Screen (TSC)** – Signed TSC order in Unity to be released by collecting location. Only those patients that may be admitted or may be having a surgical procedure at Bassett Medical Center within 3 days must be wrist banded at the time of specimen collection.

4. **Cardiac Type and Screen (CTS)** – Signed CTS order in Unity to be released by collecting location. Scheduled cardiac surgery date must be within 21 days of specimen collection. Patient must be wrist banded at the time of collection.

For Bassett Medical Center Outpatient Lab:
The person sitting at the Outpatient Lab desk will do a Unity print screen of all orders and stamp the print out if there is a Blood Bank test ordered. The stamp contains the following information:

- Date of Surgery
- Wrist banded:
- Collected By:
- Date:

If the patient meets the criteria to be wrist banded, all the above information must be documented. If the patient does not need wrist banding, the phlebotomist will “X” out the stamped information indicating not needed.

Procedure:

1. Patients must be wrist banded at the time of specimen collection (Warehouse item#: 300209 – Adult ID Band – WHT) by the person who has appropriately identified the patient. To identify a patient, ask:
   - First and last name
   - Date of Birth
   To order wristbands:
   - Warehouse Item # - 300209 Adult ID Band – WHT – Quantity – 500 or Requisition for POC Supplies – Quantity of 10-25. Send to POC-MIBH T1 Lab or Call POC office at 547-3759.

2. The Outpatient Wristband Policy is explained to the patient prior to wrist banding.

3. The wristband must contain the following information:
If the IDX registration label has been applied to the wristband, the date, time and initials of the person collecting the specimen must be written on the wristband. The suffix attached to the medical record number (-001) must be crossed out.

**Note:** If the collection location has not crossed out the -001 and the blood bank is called by the transfusing location, the blood banker or transfusing RN can cross out the -001 prior to the start of a patient and unit identification.

If the location collecting the specimen is not using the IDX registration labels, the wristband must be hand labeled (using a permanent marker or pen) with the following information:

1. The patient's complete first and last name.
2. Medical record number
3. Date, time and initials of person identifying the specimen

4. If after the patient has been properly identified, it has been determined that the Unity and/or IDX registration information cannot print the complete first name because of the number of characters in a patient's last name:
   - The patient's full first and last name must be determined.
   - The wristband must then be written with the patient's full first name and last name.
   - The specimen must be labeled from the wristband with the full first name and last name.

5. Once a specimen has been collected, labeling of the specimen must occur at the patient's side from the wristband.

6. Patients will be given the Outpatient Wrist banding Instruction sheet (Print Shop # PEC-5639) prior to their departure.

7. It will be the responsibility of the clinic nurse or physician's office to follow up with the patient:
   - If it has been decided that transfusion will not be scheduled within three days from the day the specimen was collected, the patient will be instructed to remove the wristband.
   - If the transfusion is scheduled within 3 days, the patient will be instructed to keep the wristband on until after the transfusion has been completed.

8. Outpatient specimens can be used if the outpatient becomes an inpatient when:
   - The patient can be re-identified and wrist banded with a bar coded inpatient wristband.
   - Patient name, medical record number and date of birth will be compared prior to placing the bar coded wristband on the patient.
   - At the time the patient is being re-identified, if there are any discrepancies between the two wristbands (name, MRN and DOB (if on the outpatient wristband), Blood Bank and Bed Management must be notified.
   - Discrepancies must be resolved prior to administering any blood product.
   - **Note:** The outpatient wristband can remain on the inpatient but is not required. It may be removed once the patient has been re-identified and the bar coded wristband has been placed on the patient.