### Getting Ready For a Blood Transfusion

#### Pre-Transfusion Laboratory Testing

You have the right to help plan your care, learn about your health condition and treatment, and talk with your caregivers.

You always have the right to refuse treatment.

Ask your care team any questions you have about these lab tests.

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### Laboratory Tests You Will Need

#### Type and Screen Blood Test

You will need to have a type and screen blood test at a University of Chicago Medicine lab. This test tells us your blood type (type A, B, AB, or O) so we know what blood to give you.

The type and screen blood test can be done up to 28 days before your procedure or transfusion if you:

- Have not had a positive antibody screening test
- Have not been pregnant in the last 3 months
- Have not had a blood transfusion in the last 3 months

#### ABO Verification Test

If you have never had a type and screen test at University Chicago Medicine, you will also need an ABO Verification Test.

This test re-checks your blood type (type A, B, AB, or O) and must be taken from a second needle stick. This test is a national safety requirement that labs follow to lower transfusion risks. You will not have to do this test again after today.

### Why This is Important

Blood transfusions are safe but there are risks. One risk is getting blood that does not match your blood type, and this can be fatal. Having a second blood test for ABO verification helps to make sure you get a blood transfusion that matches your blood type.