Final patient identity check for blood administration

Unit of blood delivered to clinical area

The person responsible for the transfusion checks that the unit of blood to be given has been appropriately and correctly prescribed, and that the reason for the transfusion is recorded in the case notes.

The person responsible for the transfusion checks that the patient has been given information about the transfusion.

The patient takes their photo identification (ID) card with them when attending hospital for a blood transfusion.

The person responsible for the transfusion checks that:
• any special requirements for the blood have been met;
• ABO and RhD group and donation number are identical on the blood component label and other relevant label/tag on the blood unit.

Final check – this must take place at the patient’s side
The person responsible for the transfusion:
• asks the patient (if they are able to communicate) to state their first name, surname and date of birth;
• checks that the ID details provided by the patient match the patient’s wristband/photo ID card;
• checks that these also match the patient ID details on the relevant label/tag on the blood unit.

Transfusion commences as soon as the checks are complete.