

Preassessment Department procedure for second G&S/crossmatch sample for patients with antibodies pre-op (for a single patient episode).

Normally the second G&S sample is taken on the day of surgery in the day surgery unit. Preassessment does not routinely perform 2nd G&S sample for routine surgery UNLESS there are antibodies.

Taking the sample:

- All samples are valid for 7 days UNLESS;
 - 1) Patient is pregnant
 - 2) Patient has been transfused in last 3 months.

- If the above hasn't been correctly checked on the request form (ie yes/no completed) the lab will default to 3 days validity.

- All samples should be sent to the site of surgery. When PAC is sending the 2nd sample-then it must be sent to surgical admission site, but can be taken at a different site and the lab will transfer it to the surgical site. Surgical site must be clearly written on the form.

- Some antibodies require longer to match than others, the lab will inform PAC if this is the case. Usually one vial of blood is enough but occasionally more is required. The lab will document this in the LIMS browser.

- If surgery is taking place on Monday, we can still take the 2nd sample on a Friday and it will be processed in time for Monday surgery.

- This procedure should also be followed when we are crossmatching blood pre-operatively.

If there are any issues with the above, please contact

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NB This document does not relate to the second sample policy and that in some cases, 2nd sample has been used to refer to a valid sample