

## Transfusion Services

### **Specimen Procurement by Nursing Staff**

1. Specimen collection bags are available from Transfusion Services, which include the correct tubes, a Blood Bank armband and instructions for labeling specimens.
2. Identify the patient. Ask his/her name if possible. Locate hospital armband. Armband must be on the patient, not on the bed or wall.
3. If the patient is already wearing a blood bank armband, call Transfusion Services at ext. 64521 to see if a new specimen is needed.
4. If a new specimen is needed and the patient is wearing an old blood bank armband-**remove it**. A new band is required for each draw. Draw a 6-mL pink-top (EDTA) tube and a 10-mL plain, red-top tube (no additive).
5. From the patient armband, copy the patient name and medical record number onto the label of a Blood Bank armband. (If the patient is not yet registered, use the date of birth from the handwritten hospital band instead of the medical record number). Include date, time drawn, and your name.
6. Put completed label from the Blood Bank armband onto the pink-top (EDTA) tube. On the plain, red-top tube write the patient's name and medical record number and put 1 of the small number labels from the Blood Bank armband on the tube.
7. Put Blood Bank armband on the patient using the same arm the hospital band is on.
8. Send specimen, order and remainder of the Blood Bank armband numbers to Transfusion Services via the Pneumatic Tube System (station #34).
9. **Improperly labeled specimens will be rejected and a redraw will be requested.**