

Laboratory System

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Blood Bank Specimen Collection Requirement Change Electronic PPID

Effective Date: October 18, 2026

Key Update

To meet updated blood bank regulatory requirements, all blood bank specimens must be collected using Positive Patient Identification (PPID) with electronic wristband barcode scanning.

As part of this change, the following patient identification processes will be discontinued and replaced by electronic PPID:

- East: B Number
- South: Typenex band
- West: Two-signature witness*

Inpatient Impact

All blood bank specimens must be collected using electronic wristband barcode scanning at the bedside.

- The "Patient Not Scanned" warning in the EHR may not be overridden or bypassed for blood bank specimen collections.
- Specimens collected without electronic patient barcode scanning will be rejected and require recollection.

Outpatient Impact

All blood bank specimens should be collected using electronic wristband barcode scanning whenever available.

If barcode scanning capabilities are not available at the outpatient collection site:

- The specimen must be collected using the two-signature witness process.
- If the patient does not have a historical ABO/Rh type on file, an additional specimen will be required upon admission to verify the patient's ABO/Rh type before type-specific blood products can be issued.

*Planned or Unplanned Epic Downtime

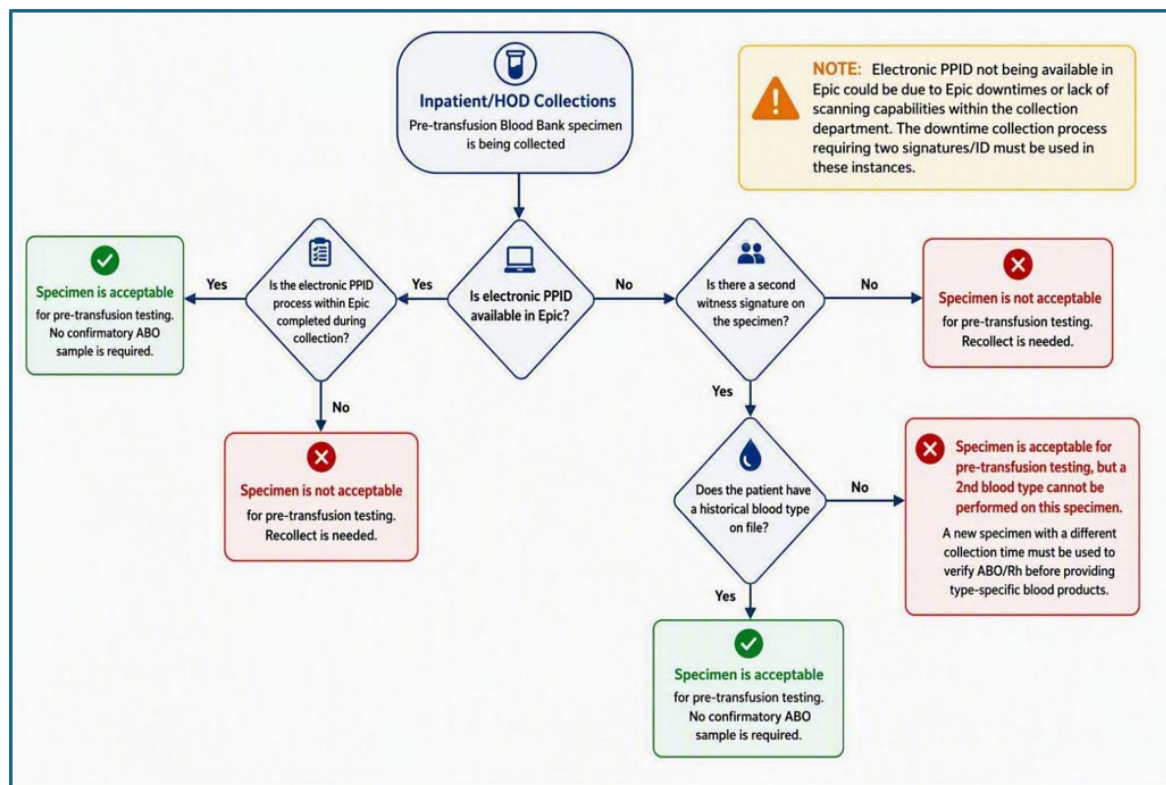
During any planned or unplanned Epic downtime, when electronic barcode scanning is unavailable:

- The two-signature witness process must be followed for specimen acceptability.
- If the patient does not have a historical ABO/Rh type on file, a second specimen collection may be required before type-specific blood products can be provided.

Date submitted: 09/28/2026

Submitted by: Blood Bank: West (Lisa Sellgren, Nada Naiyer, Lee Ann Weitekamp), East (Kelly Sartor, Kristina Davis), South (Kristin Koshar, Jeffrey Hinson)

Inpatient Specimen Acceptability

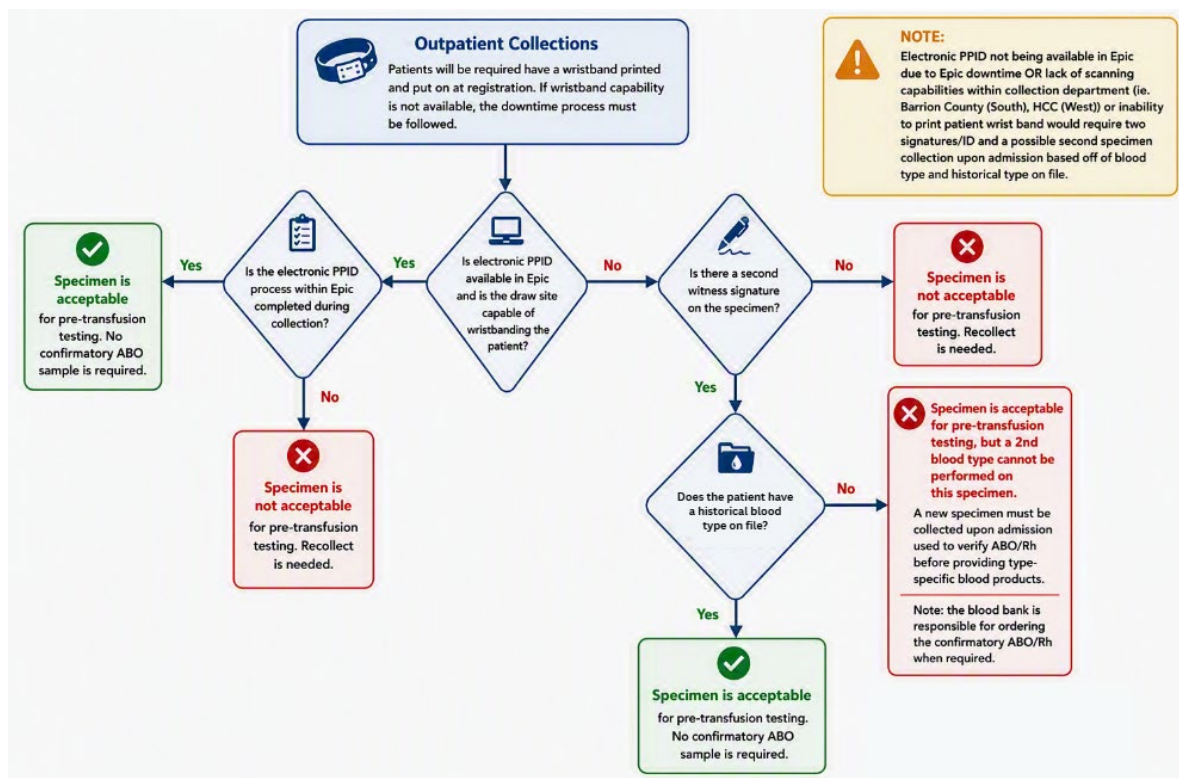


Documented Downtime ONLY – Signature Witness Process:

A two-signature specimen labeling process is only permitted during a documented computer downtime when Epic PPID is unavailable.

- All specimens collected during downtime must have a documented identifier for the collector and witness on the specimen label written in ink that is resistant to smearing.
- Proper identification is defined as either first and last name, EHR/LIS username, or employee ID
 - Cursive or otherwise illegible signatures are unacceptable.
- During a documented computer downtime, all Blood Bank specimens must be labeled and signed by both the collector and witness at the patient's bedside.
- If the patient is not on file in the blood bank LIS, downtime specimens collected without PPID will not be eligible for crossmatch of non-O, type specific blood. A second, separately collected specimen is required.

Outpatient Specimen Acceptability Flow



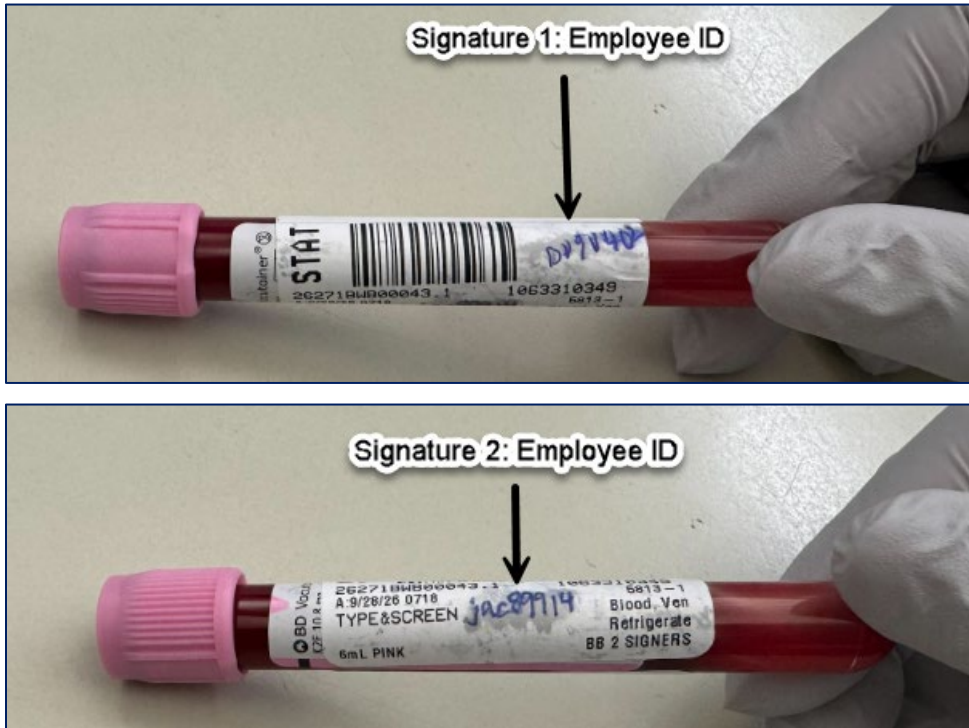
Two-Signature Witness Process:

A two-signature specimen labeling process is only permitted when Epic PPID is unavailable.

- All specimens collected if electronic PPID is unavailable must have a documented identifier for the collector and witness on the specimen label written in ink that is resistant to smearing.
- Proper identification is defined as either first and last name, EHR/LIS username, or employee ID
 - Cursive or otherwise illegible signatures are unacceptable.
- In the outpatient setting, a knowledgeable team member is the preferred witness. **Only when a second team member is not available may the patient initial as the second witness.**
 - If a guardian is acting as a witness, first and last name of the guardian is required on the label.
- If the patient is not on file in the blood bank LIS, downtime specimens collected without PPID will not be eligible for crossmatch of non-O, type specific blood. A second, separately collected specimen is required.

Two-Signature Example:

**NOTE: The specimen has been de-identified so the patient's name and MRN are not visible.*



References

Regulatory Requirement(s)

- CAP
 - TRM.30575 Mistransfusion Risk Reduction
- AABB
 - Standard 5.14.5 Pretransfusion Testing for Allogeneic Transfusion of Whole Blood, Red Blood Cell, and Granulocyte Components

Questions?

Please contact your local Laboratory Customer Service Department or Laboratory Account Manager:

- Southeast Michigan: 800.551.0488
- Southwest Michigan: 269.983.8311 ext 1
- West Michigan: 616.774.7721