

# Patient Safety Identifying the Right Patient



### Safety: Identifying the right patient

- Prior to any medication administration, specimen collection, point of care testing, treatment, invasive procedures, handoff or provision of services make sure you have the right patient.
- Check the patient for two identifiers, either their name, date of birth or medical record number and compare against the computer, labeled forms, or stickers.
- Remember: "Two, it's you!" and "Check 2 before you do!"

Acceptable identifiers are:

- Patient's name
- Date of birth
- An assigned identification number (medical record or contact serial number)
- Use open-ended statements/questions. E.g.:
  - "Tell me your name"
  - "What is your date of birth?"





### Safety: Identifying the right patient

- Acceptable sources of information are:
  - The patient
  - the patient identification band
  - Government-issued photo identification
  - Patient-specific computer-generated paperwork
  - Patient electronic medical record
  - For inpatients, one of the two sources of information used for patient identification must be the identification band.
  - For outpatients, one of the two sources of information used for patient identification must be the patient
- Label lab specimens in the presence of the patient
- Do not bypass bar code scanning
- Accurate patient identification is expected 100% of the time





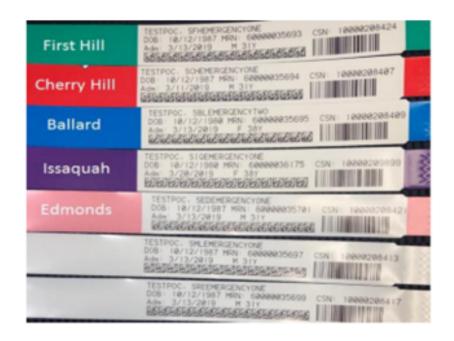
#### **Identification Band**

- The ID band is the primary source of identification throughout the patient's hospital stay and some outpatient visits
- If ID Band is inaccurate, missing, illegible or has a color band from another Swedish campus location notify the employee you are working with to have it replaced.





# PATIENT IDENTIFICATION BANDS / LABELS





### **Transfer to Another Campus**

Patients should continue to wear their current patient identification band at transfer

ID band and labels are replaced immediately upon admission to new campus

As the patient identification label is changed, the name, MRN, DOB must be verified and matched.



# Activities Requiring Accurate Patient Identification

- Upon arrival to a department
- Prior to information handoff
- Prior to any entry into medical record Placing orders
  - Progress notes and flowsheets
  - Medication administration
- Prior to any treatments or services
  - Lab work (e.g. drawing blood, collecting/labeling lab specimens, Point of Care testing)
  - Checking vital signs
  - Imaging (e.g. X-ray, CT, MRI, Mammogram)
  - Respiratory (e.g. breathing treatments, EKGs)
  - Dietary (e.g. serving meal trays)
  - Medication administration (scan barcode on armband)
  - Point of Care testing (scan barcode on armband)





# Activities Requiring Accurate Patient Identification By two (2) licensed staff members

This is not a student function but watch and learn the process

#### Prior to invasive procedures

- Chest tube placement
- Central line placement
- Needle biopsies
- Needle aspirations

## Prior to administration of high risk products

- High risk drugs
- Blood and blood products
- Anesthetics or sedation





#### **Patient Education**

Educate patient /family about Patient ID and how it relates to their safety.

"For your safety, we will be asking for your name and date of birth, while referring to your armband often during your stay. This is to ensure that we are always documenting and treating the right patient."