



The Joint Commission

● National Patient Safety Goals

National Patient Safety Goals Effective January 1, 2013

Goal 1

Improve the accuracy of patient identification.

NPSG.01.01.01

Use at least two patient identifiers when providing care, treatment, and services.

1. Use at least two patient identifiers when administering medications, blood, or blood components; when collecting blood samples and other specimens for clinical testing; and when providing treatments or procedures. The patient's room number or physical location is not used as an identifier. (See also MM.05.01.09, EPs 8 and 11; NPSG.01.03.01, EP 1)
2. Label containers used for blood and other specimens in the presence of the patient.

NPSG.01.03.01

Eliminate transfusion errors related to patient misidentification.

Elements

1. Before initiating a blood or blood component transfusion:
 - Match the blood or blood component to the order.
 - Match the patient to the blood or blood component.
 - Use a two-person verification process or a one-person verification process accompanied by automated identification technology, such as bar coding. (See also NPSG.01.01.01, EPs 1 and 2)
2. When using a two-person verification process, one individual conducting the identification verification is the qualified transfusionist who will administer the blood or blood component to the patient.
3. When using a two-person verification process, the second individual conducting the identification verification is qualified to participate in the process, as determined by the hospital.

Goal 2

Improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers.

NPSG.02.03.01

Report critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures on a timely basis.

Elements

1. Develop written procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures that address the following:
 - The definition of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures
 - By whom and to whom critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures are reported
 - The acceptable length of time between the availability and reporting of critical results of

