

**Goal 1**

Improve the accuracy of patient identification.

**NPSG.01.01.01**

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

**Rationale for NPSG.01.01.01**

Wrong-patient errors occur in virtually all stages of diagnosis and treatment. The intent for this goal is two-fold: first, to reliably identify the individual as the person for whom the service or treatment is intended; second, to match the service or treatment to that individual. Acceptable identifiers may be the individual's name, an assigned identification number, telephone number, or other person-specific identifier.

**Elements of Performance for NPSG.01.01.01**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <p>Ⓜ 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)</p> | <p>⚠ C</p> |
| <p>2. Label containers used for blood and other specimens in the presence of the patient. (See also NPSG.01.03.01, EP 1)</p>   | <p>⚠ A</p> |

KEY: A indicates scoring category A; C indicates scoring category C; ⚠ indicates situational decision rules apply; ⚠ indicates direct impact requirements apply; Ⓜ indicates Measure of Success if needed; Ⓧ indicates that documentation is required

Page 2 of 24  
 Effective July 1, 2010  
 Pre-Publication Version  
 © 2010 The Joint Commission

**NPSG.01.03.01**

Eliminate transfusion errors related to patient misidentification.

**Elements of Performance for NPSG.01.03.01**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <p>1. Before initiating a blood or blood component transfusion:<br/>             - Match the blood or blood component to the order.<br/>             - Match the patient to the blood or blood component.<br/>             - Use a two-person verification process.<br/>             (See also NPSG.01.01.01, EPs 1 and 2)<br/>             Note: If two individuals are not available, an automated identification technology (for example, bar coding) may be used in place of one of the individuals.</p> | <p>⚠ A</p> |
| <p>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.</p>   | <p>⚠ A</p> |
| <p>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.</p>  | <p>⚠ A</p> |