

## Division of Nuclear Medicine Procedure / Protocol University Hospital & The American Center

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PREVENTING BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS  
UPDATED: Dec 2020

POLICY

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### Labeling Blood Elements (WBC's, RBC's, Platelets)

- Red blood cells are the only blood elements labeled by Nuclear Technologists.
- White Blood Cell labeling is not done at the UWH Nuclear Pharmacy. This is sent out to a third-party vendor.

### Red Blood Cells Specifically

- RBC labeling for MUGA, GI bleeding studies, and denatured RBC scans will use the in vitro *UltraTag*® method. On occasion, MUGA, or GI bleeding studies can use the modified in-vivo/vitro.
- In-vitro Red Cell labeling will follow SOP "*Immediate Use of Radiopharmaceuticals*"

### White Blood Cells or Platelets Specifically

- White Blood Cell labeling and platelet labeling are not done at UW Health. These procedures are outsourced to a commercial pharmacy.
- One Nuclear Medicine technologist will perform blood collection, which includes completing all supplied paperwork and packaging the blood for pickup.
- One Nuclear Medicine technologist, Nuclear Pharmacy Technician, or Nuclear Pharmacist will receive returned WBC unit dose.
- Nuclear Medicine technologist will administer the unit dose. This does NOT need to be the same technologist that performed the blood collection.

### All Blood Collections

- Patients will be identified by two methods, which may include name, MR#, birth date, or wristband.
- Exam gloves will be worn when collecting blood.
  - For labeling procedures, see *Ultratag* product label and Immediate Use of Radiopharmaceuticals SOP for garbing requirements.
- All used syringes, needles, and tubes are discarded in sharps disposal boxes immediately after use.
- New needles and syringes will be used as needed.
- All employees are encouraged to get Hepatitis B vaccine.

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