

Instructions: Bend sheet then "pop-out" card.

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS WITH RED CELL ANTIBODIES

Results from recent tests showed that red cell antibodies are present in your blood. Details of the antibodies are shown on the card above, which can be detached for safe keeping.

Q. What does this mean?

A. These antibodies are related to red cells in your blood and **NOT TO ANY ILLNESS OR INFECTION**. They are **NOT** harmful to you and will not affect your health in any way.

Q. Where did they come from?

A. Red cell antibodies usually develop as a result of having a blood transfusion or following pregnancy. Occasionally, red cell antibodies develop naturally, without having had a transfusion or pregnancy. If you have had a blood transfusion it does **NOT** mean that you were given the wrong blood. Our red cells carry many different blood groups and usually it is necessary to match for the two most important groups, ABO and RhD.

Q. Why do I need to know about these antibodies?

A. If you need a transfusion in the future, these antibodies mean that other blood groups as well as ABO and RhD have to be taken into account. For pregnant women, some antibodies can occasionally affect your baby. Therefore it is helpful for doctors who treat you and for hospital laboratories to know about red cell antibodies.

Please show this card to the medical staff if you ever require hospital treatment or attend an antenatal clinic.

If you forget or lose your card, hospital laboratories will still be able to detect the antibodies and find suitable blood for you. **However, if you should lose this card, please write to the above address for replacement informing us of your full name and DOB.**

If you want further information, please ask the doctor looking after you. **Never let this card be used by another person as the particulars relate to you only.**

Antibody Card

To the person named on this card:

Your blood contains red cell antibodies, which may be of clinical importance. If you are admitted to hospital you should show this card to the Medical Staff.

Please keep this card carefully and never let it be used by another person as the particulars relate to you only.