

If you do not want your samples to be used for any of the purposes in this leaflet, or as outlined to you verbally, please inform the professional taking your blood.

If you agree to the use of your samples as outlined in this leaflet, and as informed by the medical professional, please sign the consent form provided to you.



The lab is accredited by the European Federation for Immunogenetics

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact the team



Contact Us

Lab Number: 01 809 2651
Email: transplantlab@beaumont.ie




Patient Information: Guide to transplant laboratory testing for **potential living donors**



NHISSOT

National Histocompatibility
Service for Solid Organ
Transplantation

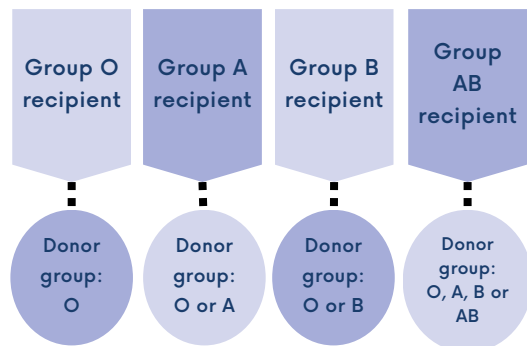


In order for scientists to store and test your samples we need your permission. This leaflet will inform you about what happens to your blood sample when we receive it in the lab and the main tests we carry out. These tests include: HLA typing, ABO blood group typing and Crossmatching. Without your consent these tests will not be performed.

ABO blood group type

Your red blood cells have a specific group, the main ones being: A, B, AB or O.

In general, for successful transplantation, the donors blood group must be compatible with the recipients blood group. The different pairs considered are in the diagram below:



The ABO blood group test is performed in the Blood transfusion laboratory by testing a sample of your blood.

HLA Typing

HLAs (Human Leukocyte Antigens) are proteins located on the surface of most cells in the body. They are used by the immune system to identify cells that belong to the body and cells that do not. If the recipient's and donor's HLA type do not match, the recipient's immune system may attack the donor cells. Generally, the better the HLA match between you and the recipient, the better the chances are of achieving a successful, long-lasting transplant. However, successful transplants can also occur with differences in HLA types.

Your HLA type is inherited from your parents, and there are many different types in the population. We use HLA typing to identify your HLA type in order to help assess if you could be a suitable donor for the recipient.

The test is carried out using your DNA which is obtained from your blood cells. We will then store your DNA sample in case we need to retest it in the future.

Crossmatch

The crossmatch test is used to assess donor-recipient compatibility. The recipient's immune system may have produced antibodies which could attack the donor organ. This test helps to mimic what would happen in the recipient's body if transplanted, and can indicate if the recipient's antibodies are likely to cause damage to the donated organ.

The test is performed using the serum component of the recipient's blood and your white blood cells. The transplant will not go ahead until this test is completed. It may also be necessary to perform this test at multiple intervals during the assessment period.

Sample storage:

As previously stated, we will store your samples in our laboratory in case they are needed for future testing. If given your permission we may also use these samples in the future for research (if approved by Beaumont ethics committee). Once no longer needed, your samples will be discarded according to the Department of Health & Children and Laboratory protocols.

