**COVID-19 PROTOCOL:**

**CROSSMATCH SAMPLES**

**INSIDE the OR:**

* Have a pre-made crossmatch kit ready (sample tube(s), 10cc syringes, 18g needle, GREEN “CODE-C” (COVID) label in Biohazard bag)
* Wear second pair of gloves
* Create a “clean” working area more than 2m away from patient:
  + Use 2 VIROX wipes to set up 2 zones on the table surface – one is “contaminated zone”, other is “decontaminated specimen zone”
* Take sample from patient as usual inside the COVID OR under full PPE
* Place sample tube in middle of “contaminated” zone
* Remove outer gloves (soiled) and replace with new 2nd pair
* Thoroughly WIPE the sample tube with VIROX and transfer the tube to the “decontaminated” zone and allow to DRY
* Apply GREEN COVID label as well as sticker with patient ID (Addressograph) to sample tube
  + GREEN label should be wrapped around top of tube under Vacutainer seal
* Sign, date and time the label as usual (**DO NOT FORGET THIS PART**)
* Place the tube in a clear biohazard bag and seal
* WIPE the outside of this bag and place in the SAS for runner to pickup
* CALL the runner once OR door closed

**OUTSIDE the OR:**

* Runner (gloves ON) to collect the sample bag from the SAS
* WIPE the outside of the bag, remove gloves, and place inside a SECOND clear bag
* By VERBAL ORDER (Phone from OR) complete the GREEN BLOOD REQUISITION sheet:
  + Names of phlebotomist and witness (MD, RT)
  + Date and time of collection (to match notation on sample tube)
  + PRODUCTS required
* Write on the green req that this is a “**COVID case**” and done by “**Verbal Order**”
* Runner to also complete the **PINK** lab form advising of COVID case specimen
* Fold and Place the GREEN REQ and the PINK COVID form in the outer pocket of the second specimen bag
* Crossmatch sample can be sent via pneumatic tube (PTS) to Blood Bank as usual (probably best to call them to advise, especially if urgent)

**COVID-19 PROTOCOL:**

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION**

Procedure to follow when verifying and transfusing blood products:

* Runner to PHOTOCOPY green voucher when they receive product from Blood Bank
* Send PHOTOCOPY of voucher into the OR with corresponding product ONLY when ready to transfuse
* Remember anything brought into the COVID OR cannot come back out. Avoid waste of scarce resource: only ask for products to be sent into OR when sure to transfuse
* Complete 2-person product verification as usual INSIDE the OR using the photocopy
* Once product verified as correct, PHONE runner to complete the GREEN voucher outside the room with NAMES of verifiers and note “**COVID: VERBAL CONFIRMATION**”, as well as usual date and time, etc.
* Place GREEN voucher on chart as usual and return tear-off slip to Blood Bank
* Photocopy of voucher to be discarded in the OR

**IF EMERGENCY and limited time:**

* Send the blood product(s) into the OR without the green voucher or copy
* Complete verification OVER THE PHONE: person inside the OR verifies patient ID and product label info with runner outside who verifies same info on the green voucher
* Runner completes Green voucher as above (names, etc.), noting “**COVID**” and “**VERIFIED BY PHONE**”

***\*\*\*Please note that this second option is less ideal and should be reserved for emergencies/MTP\*\*\****

**STORAGE and DISPOSAL of used product bags:**

* Used product bags still need to be kept for 24h in case of reaction needing investigation.
* Place all used products in a sealable plastic bag inside the COVID OR
* At the end of the case, WIPE the outside of the bag and place into another clean Ziploc in the SAS
* When removing the bag outside the SAS, WIPE again
* LABEL the bag with **“COVID”** and write an **expiration time** (24 hours)
* Bag to be stored in DIRTY UTILITY and discarded after 24h time limit