



San Pathology at Sydney Adventist Hospital

The San's Strengths

“San Pathology is proud of its very low discard rate of blood products. We believe this is attributable to four major functions within the pathology department of Sydney Adventist Hospital. First and foremost, we believe that everybody involved in the handling of blood should be very well trained. For example, all our clinicians and nurses must do the BloodSafe eLearning program on a three yearly cycle and all pathology staff are required to undertake BloodSafe on an annual basis.

Secondly, we believe that good housekeeping is very important. Cross-matched blood is only held for 24 hours unless special arrangements are made and blood not transfused is placed, in order, back in the stock fridge with the oldest stock in front. This means that we have very little blood going out of date.

Third important factor is good governance. The blood transfusion program of the hospital is regulated by a very active, high powered transfusion committee. Further, we have a pathologist who is very keen on managing blood and blood products and interacts very actively with our clinicians who order blood and blood products.

Lastly, our staff have a really positive attitude towards blood. They treat it as though it's their own. So we have a staff who is well trained and very much in believing, have very strong beliefs for managing blood and making sure it is used appropriately.”