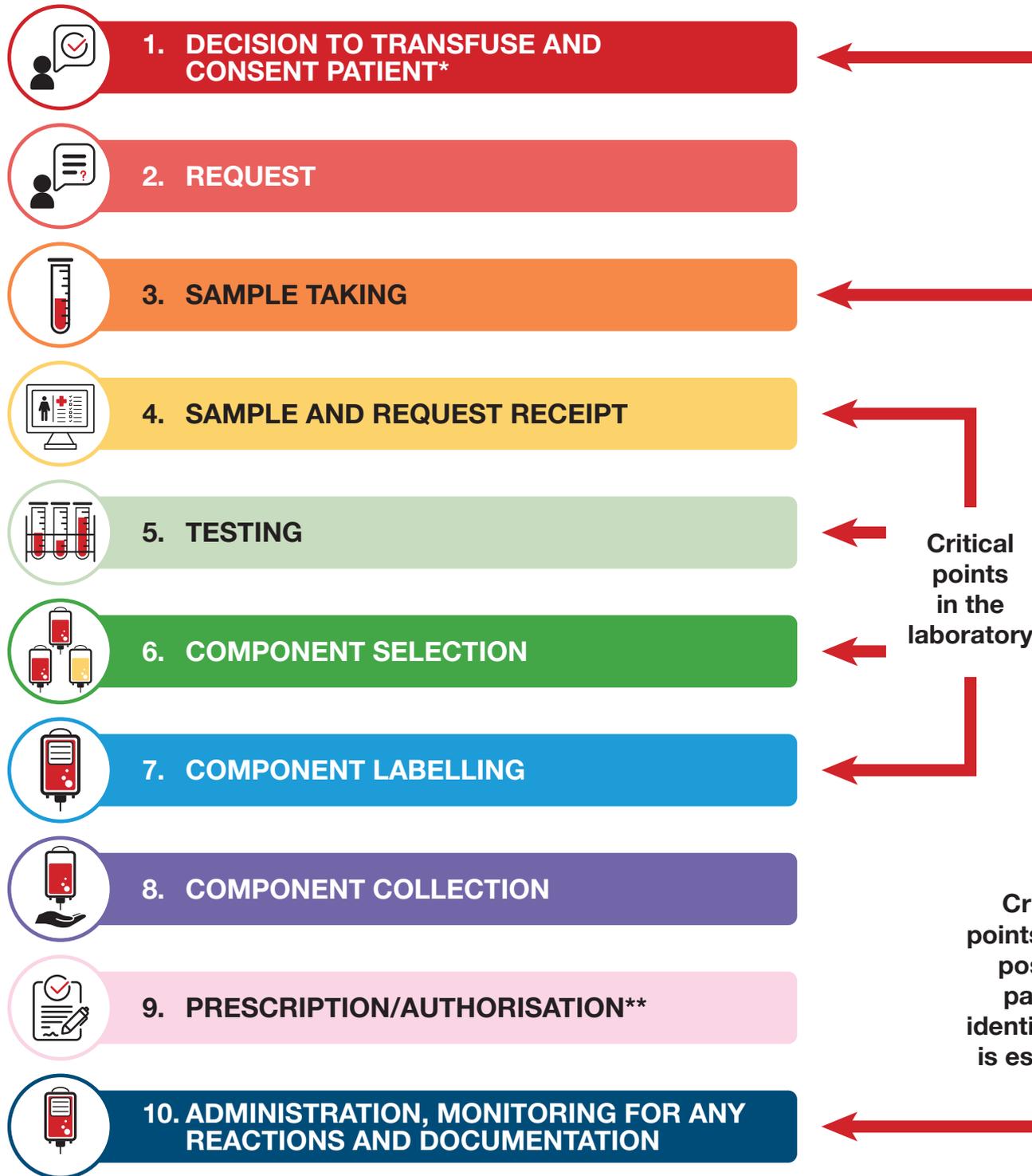


# Ten steps in transfusion



*\*Note that the pre-transfusion sample may have been taken in advance (for e.g. pre-op) while the decision to transfuse is made at a later date.*

*\*\*Once the decision to transfuse has been made, the prescription/authorisation may be written at variable times during the sequence but must be checked at the final stage.*

*Staff are encouraged to use the SHOT Safe Transfusion Checklist with every transfusion episode.*

*Misidentification of patients is a significant cause of avoidable harm. Patient identity must be verified effectively and accurately at every step in the transfusion pathway. All staff must be aware of the importance of correct patient identification and this must be confirmed in accordance with local policies.*

**Critical points in the laboratory**

**Critical points where positive patient identification is essential**