

Transfusion of Blood and Blood Products; quick step guide

****Disclaimer**** This Quick guide is a synopsis of the procedure without rationales or citations. It is intended to be a review and not intended for first-time or novice users.

- **Verify Informed Consent signed:** May be waived in an emergency. Consider client age, mental status, and religious beliefs.
- **Verify Prescriber Order:** Date, time, product name, dose/units, rate of infusion, and any special requirements.
- **Obtain pre-transfusion blood sample if applicable:** Ensure proper labelling and verification of sample prior to sending to CBS. Anticipate 2nd Type and Screen for transfusions of 2 or more units PRBCs.
- **Assess Client:** Ensure patent IV access. Vital signs within 30 minutes prior to starting transfusion. Pre-transfusion physical assessment as baseline to monitor for transfusion reaction. Provide additional client education when applicable.
- **Obtain all necessary equipment/ prepare for transfusion:** Infusion pump and tubing per facility protocol. Emergency supplies to be readily available. Support nearby.
- **Obtain the blood product:** Per facility protocol (Staff transport/ pneumatic tube system). Ensure transfusionist is aware when blood product arrives to transfusion site. Note that product must be initiated within 60 MINUTES from removal of blood fridge. It must be returned or put in monitored satellite blood fridge if initiation within 60 minutes is not possible.
- **Perform 2 Nurse Verification:** Must be 2 qualified transfusionists, not students. If any discrepancy DO NOT transfuse. Both signatures must appear on CBPR.
 - **Verify product:** Type O Rh specific unless more than 2 units PRBCs required. Perform visual inspection. Compare Physician order/ TMRR/ ROT and Blood Bag.
 - **Verify client:** Compare client identification (letter by letter, number by number) from patient demographic sheet to TMRR/ROT and Blood bag.
 - **At bedside:** NO BAND= NO BLOOD. Have client verbalize first and last name when possible. Compare blood tag to patient armband.
- **Establish Transfusion:** Via infusion pump only. Prime tubing per facility protocol. Document on CBPR. Sign and return RoT to Blood Bank.

**** see Blood Product Monograph for specific product instruction****
- **Transfuse Slowly for first 15 minutes:** Remain with patient and monitor closely for signs of reaction. If no reaction after 15 minutes, increase to ordered rate.
- **Monitor throughout Transfusion:** Vital signs as monograph indicates. Infusion time shall NOT exceed 4 hours. Stop transfusions immediately if reaction suspected and refer to transfusion reaction algorithm.
- **Document on CBPR**