Blood Component Prescribing Checklist

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood®

If blood components are required in an emergency, contact your Transfusion Service Provider immediately.

Task	Checklist
Confirm patient identity	**Check three patient identifiers:** ☐ Ask the patient to state their full name and date of birth. ☐ Check unique hospital ID number. ☐ Confirm these are identical on the prescription and the patient's wristband.
Obtain and document consent	**Explain the transfusion to the patient, obtain and document consent (follow your local policy).** ☐ Ensure you cover the following: • reasons for transfusion • risks, benefits and alternatives (including no treatment) • process of transfusion, and • provide the patient or carer with written information and the opportunity to ask questions. ☐ Document consent or refusal.
Collect pretransfusion sample	**Contact your Transfusion Service Provider to determine if a current pretransfusion sample/ cross-match is available and valid. If not, complete the following:** ☐ Complete a pretransfusion testing request form, recording the clinical indications and the date and time blood product is required. ☐ When collecting the patient sample: • confirm patient identity • label samples immediately after collection with full patient name, date of birth and/or unique hospital ID number • record date and time of collection • confirm patient details on blood sample and request form are identical, and • sign both the blood sample and collector's declaration on request form. ☐ Transport the sample to your Transfusion Service Provider.
Documentation and communication	**Blood component prescription must be documented, consented, and communicated to ward and clincal staff.** ☐ Ensure you complete documentation with the following information: • full patient name, location of patient, date of birth and/or unique hospital ID number • number and type of blood components requested (avoid using abbreviations) • any special requirements or modifiers e.g. IgA deficient • date and time required, including degree of urgency • patient information including indication for transfusion, patient's diagnoses and relevant transfusion and obstetric history, and • identity and signature of prescriber with date. ☐ Inform clinical staff caring for the patient that the blood component has beeen prescribed.
Monitor for signs of transfusion reactions	**If suspected transfusion reaction occurs:** ☐ Stop the transfusion. ☐ Activate emergency procedures if required. ☐ Follow your local transfusion reaction protocols.
Review response to transfusion	☐ Assess to determine if desired outcome has been achieved. ☐ Assess patient for further blood component transfusions as necessary. ☐ Document the patient assessment.

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