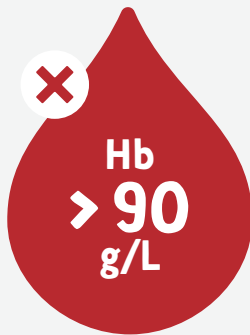


Guidance on Red Cell Transfusion for Postnatal Patients Not Actively Bleeding

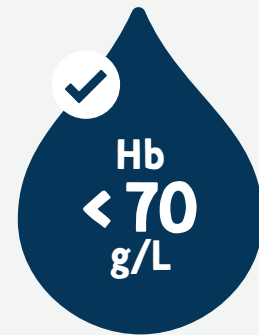
Transfusion should be dictated by clinical status and not by haemoglobin (Hb) alone.



Transfusion is usually inappropriate.



Consider transfusion only if there are signs and symptoms of anaemia. Oral or IV iron may be used as an alternative or adjunct to transfusion.



Transfusion may be appropriate, but is not always required. Consider IV iron as an alternative or adjunct to transfusion.

Decided to transfuse?

Where indicated, transfuse a single unit followed by clinical reassessment to determine need for further transfusion or Hb retest.

In patients with iron deficiency anaemia, iron therapy is required to replenish iron stores even after transfusion.

Further information

The National Blood Authority's *Patient Blood Management Guidelines: Module 5 Obstetrics and Maternity* are available at blood.gov.au

The *iTransfuse App* assists with red cell dosage based on a patient's Hb, age, weight and medical condition. Available from the App Store or Google Play.