

TRANSFUSION REACTIONS

Symptoms

Chills
Rigors
Unexpected fever (>38°)
Nausea / Vomiting
Headache

Type of Reaction

Non haemolytic
Septic
Bacterial contamination

Action

Stop transfusion, maintain IV access
Take vital signs
Seek urgent medical advice, MO may advise continuation after examination of pt
Return product bag to Blood Bank for culture
Document – complete Transfusion reaction form

Localised hives
Rash, Flushing
Wheeze, Dyspnoea
Hypotension

Allergic
Anaphylactic

Stop transfusion
Maintain IV access
Take vital signs
Seek urgent medical advice
Document– complete Transfusion reaction form

Dyspnoea
Productive cough
Pink frothy sputum
Hypertension
Headache

Fluid Overload

Sit patient upright
Administer Oxygen therapy
Seek medical advice, Monitor vital signs
Stop transfusion, maintain IV access
Document in patient history

Chills, fever
Back pain
Hypotension
Pain at IV insertion site
Haemoglobinuria
Feeling of impending doom

ABO incompatibility
Haemolytic reaction

Immediate Action

Stop transfusion, Maintain IV access
Seek URGENT medical advice – MET call
Collect blood specimens & return blood pack to Blood Bank
Notify Haematology registrar
Document– complete Transfusion reaction form