

14. RECEIPT OF BLOOD AT BARWON HEALTH FROM OTHER HOSPITALS

Purpose

Occasionally patients are transferred from hospitals external to Barwon Health who are bleeding and require ongoing transfusion support.

These patients are occasionally accompanied by blood, which has been crossmatched by an external laboratory.

This creates an issue, not so much with an acceptance of compatibility, but of documentation. Different systems and documentation processes than those used by Barwon Health create a problem with the medical record and potentially with product traceability. There may or may not be the paperwork accompanying those blood products.

Scope

This policy and procedure applies to Division 1 Nursing staff, and Medical officers.

Policy

To correctly identify both patient and product with external crossmatched blood products.

To maintain transfusion support for patients who are transferred to Barwon Health with accompanying blood products

Procedure

1. Where immediate transfusion is not required

Where time permits, a new crossmatch sample will be drawn from the patient using standard protocols and sent to the PathCare Laboratory along with the accompanying blood units.

This enables the patient to be transfused and documented along the standard PathCare and Barwon Health protocols and facilitates ongoing transfusion support.

Where possible the laboratory will confirm that the accompanying units have been correctly transported and are suitable for transfusion.

Where appropriate, the laboratory will re-group and antibody screen the patient and re-crossmatch and re-issue those units. Alternatively the units will be returned to stock if transfusion is no longer required or discarded if they are no longer suitable for transfusion.

2. Where immediate transfusion is required and delay would compromise patient care

In a situation where there is insufficient time to re-crossmatch those units accompanying the patient, the treating Clinician may elect to transfuse those units based on clinical urgency.

This will be the sole responsibility of the treating Clinician.

Date Revised:	June 2006 Receipt Of Blood Products (Lisa Stevenson & Dr G	A2.7.11 Administration of Blood Products
Insertion:	Davey, Haematologist)	14. Receipt of Blood from other Hospitals
Reviewed by:	Lisa Stevenson (Blood Nurse), Dr Geoff Davey (PathCare)	Page 1 of 2
Approved by:	Nursing Quality and Safe Practice Committee	

CONTINUUM OF CARE
 CLINICAL PRACTICE MANUAL - NURSING
 CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM
 A2.7.11A - ADMINISTRATION OF BLOOD PRODUCTS-
 RECEIPT OF BLOOD AT BARWON HEALTH FROM OTHER HOSPITALS

In these circumstances, a pre-transfusion cross match blood specimen remains **mandatory** to ensure ongoing transfusion support. This must be done as soon as is practicable, and ideally prior to issue of further blood products.

Following should be considered:

- The product must be deemed appropriate and safe.
- The component should be inspected for discolouration/leakage etc (normal protocol)
- The product must be an acceptable temperature.
- Acceptability of temperature will be based on time since departure from refrigerated facilities, mode of packaging and time to delivery of the product to the patient.
- No known unacceptable exposure of the product to extremes of temperature in transit.
- When in doubt discuss with the on call haematologist, or issue O negative emergency red cell units

Normal identification procedures must be followed, i.e. the product and the patient for whom the product is intended must be adequately identified. This will include receipt of accompanying paperwork from the original laboratory indicating;

- The type of product, group, donor (batch) number, modification or special requirements (as applicable) and the expiry date of the product
- The patient for whom the product is intended identified by at least 2 established identifiers (or a single unknown patient identifier), in the form of a transfusion report from the issuing service.
- Documentation of the patient blood group for comparison with the product group.
- Ability to identify the patient by verbal request AND/OR wristband or equivalent.

The empty blood packs should be returned PathCare for retrospective crossmatching and full documentation of those transfused units. A copy of paperwork of accompanying units/product and/or preceding transfusion (i.e. the transfusion report) should be forwarded with the specimen.

References

Barwon Health Transfusion Committee 2006

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