

Cytomegalovirus(CMV)-Negative Blood Components Guidelines

Who	<p>Medical Staff</p> <p>Blood Bank Scientists</p> <p>Division 1 Registered Nursing Staff</p>
Expected Outcomes	That no patient will acquire a transfusion-transmitted cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection.
Precautions	<p>Transmission of CMV disease is associated with cellular blood components (ie whole blood, red blood cells and platelets).</p> <p>Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP), cryoprecipitate and other plasma-derived blood components do not require special testing.</p>
Why	Transfusion of cellular blood components which are not screened for CMV may result in the transmission of CMV to immunocompromised CMV-negative patients.



If CMV-negative blood components are unavailable leucocyte depleted blood components can be used to reduce the transmission of CMV.

Clinical Indications for CMV-Negative Blood Components

- CMV-negative recipients of allogenic or autologous stem cell, bone marrow or solid organ transplants.
- CMV-negative recipients of highly immunosuppressive chemotherapy eg leukaemia, lymphoma.
- Intrauterine transfusions. (Blood components for this procedure must also be leucocyte depleted and irradiated.)
- Low birth weight babies, weighing less than 1500 grams and less than 34 weeks gestation.
- CMV-negative pregnant women.



If an adverse event (actual or 'near miss') is associated with the administration of CMV-negative blood components, document details in the health record and complete an incident report.



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The Clinical Use of Blood in Medicine, Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Surgery and Anaesthesia, Trauma & Burns, 2001, World Health Organisation, Blood Transfusion Safety, Malta

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SH Policy	Patient Care	ACHS	Continuum of Care
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