



BLOOD TRANSFUSION CARD

Checklist for blood transfusions

1. **Check the transfusion prescription.**
2. **Make sure that the product matches the patient** (blood group, compatibility test, special products such as irradiated products).
3. **Inspect the blood product** (expiry date, colour, appearance, presence of blood clots or gas).
4. **Identify the patient and make sure that the product is meant for the patient in question.**
5. **Record the patient's heart rate, blood pressure and temperature and, if necessary, oxygen saturation and respiratory rate.**
6. **Start the blood transfusion slowly and monitor the patient closely** (biological pre-testing).
7. **Repeat the above measurements after biological pre-testing and after each transfused product.**
8. **Document the blood transfusion according to the hospital instructions** (start and end times of the transfusion, amount of blood transfused).
9. **Continue monitoring the patient after the transfusion for any delayed adverse reactions.**
10. **Store the tubing and its attachments used for compatibility testing for 3 days** (marked with the product unit number and personal identity sticker) **together with the bag and the transfusion equipment for 24 h in the fridge** (close them with a stopper).

! Important

- Only handle blood products that are intended for one patient at a time.
- Remember that transfusing blood products carries a risk of adverse reactions.
- Transfusing incorrect or incompatible products in particular may result in serious adverse reactions, so be careful.
- Return any unused blood products to the hospital's blood centre.
- Familiarise yourself with your hospital's blood transfusion instructions.

Blood transfusion tests

- Before any blood product transfusion, ABO and RhD blood group determinations must be performed from two separate samples taken on different occasions.
- Before transfusing red blood cells, antibody screening and, if necessary, antibody identification as well as compatibility testing must be performed.

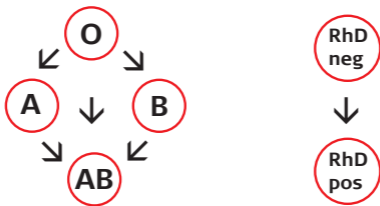
Blood transfusion equipment and infused solutions

- All blood products are transfused using blood transfusion tubing fitted with a filter (150–200 μm).
- Only electrolyte solutions that do not contain calcium (such as NaCl 0.9%) may be infused via the same catheter, 3-way stopcock or tubing used for administering blood products.

Red blood cell transfusions

Indications include chronic anaemia, acute bleeding and supportive treatment of cancer or malignant haematological disorders.

Rules for transfusing **red blood cells** in case of blood group deviations



Red blood cell products must be transfused at room temperature

- Massive and rapid blood transfusions carry a risk of arrhythmias and cardiac arrest, and the products therefore need to be warmed.

Duration of infusion

- Usually 2–3 hours.
- The transfusion must be completed within 6 hours after bringing the product to room temperature.

Red blood cell products must be stored at +2 °C – +6 °C.

Note. Any products that have remained at room temperature for more than an hour must not be returned to the fridge.

Platelet transfusions

Indications include massive bleeding as well as treatment and prevention of bleeding if the patient has thrombocytopenia or thrombocyt disorder.

Platelet products must be stored and transfused at room temperature

- Can be stored for up to 24 hours at room temperature without an agitator.

Duration of infusion

- 30-60 minutes.

Blood group options in platelet transfusions

Blood group of the patient	Blood group of the product	Compatibility
A	A O AB B	Identical Good Adequate Adequate
O	O B A AB	Identical Adequate Adequate Adequate
B	B O AB A	Identical Good Adequate Adequate
AB	AB A B O	Identical Good Good Good

Anti-D protection

- If an RhD negative patient needs a transfusion of RhD positive platelets, the patient needs anti-D protection.

Transfusion of plasma products (octaplasLG®)

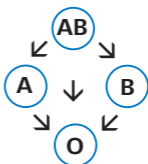
Indications include correcting the simultaneous deficiency of coagulation factors in conjunction with bleeding or a procedure.

Plasma products must be transfused at room temperature

- For more information, see the summary of product characteristics.

Remember that when transfusing plasma, the ABO rules are the opposite of those for red blood cell products.

Rules for plasma transfusions



! Treatment of adverse reactions

1. Stop the blood transfusion and notify the doctor.
2. Check vital signs and start symptomatic treatment.
3. Check the details of the product and the patient. If products have been changed between patients, make sure that another incorrect transfusion does not occur.
4. Once the patient's condition is stable, document the adverse reaction and check the instructions for further treatment.
5. Seal the product and the transfusion equipment in a plastic bag and store it in the fridge.
6. Order the necessary samples relevant to the adverse reaction.
7. Complete an adverse reaction report (www.bloodservice.fi).
8. Submit the report and the blood product to the hospital's blood centre.
9. Discuss the incident at your work unit.

Contact the Blood Service

Blood Safety Office (adverse reactions)

Tel. 029 300 1100, veriturva@veripalvelu.fi

Order centre (blood products and use of blood)

Tel. 029 300 1001

bloodservice.fi, switchboard, tel. 029 300 1010

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