



TRANSFUSION MEDICINE PROTOCOLS

Major Haemorrhage - Urgent Transfusion Requests

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

Aim

This document outlines the options for urgent and emergency blood product provision in the urgent treatment of a bleeding patient. There is further information on the KEMH Major Haemorrhage Guideline (also known as Massive Transfusion Protocol or MTP) which was developed as an initiative of the KEMH Hospital Transfusion Committee in association with the KEMH Anaesthetics Department.

Description

The requesting clinician or designee **must** telephone the Transfusion Medicine Unit (TMU) for ALL urgent or emergency requests in the adult or the neonatal setting. If an in-date Group and Hold (G&H) is already available crossmatched blood can be issued within 10 minutes. If not, the provision of compatible blood will take a *minimum* of 40 minutes. In an emergency, blood may be clinically essential prior to the completion of compatibility testing.

On these occasions, the requesting clinician must take full responsibility for the use of uncrossmatched blood, which carries a significant risk of severe transfusion reaction and should therefore be restricted to life threatening emergencies only. The reason for transfusion must always be documented in the medical record. In an emergency both ABO Group Specific and O Rh D Negative uncrossmatched blood are available from the TMU.

ABO Group Specific Uncrossmatched Blood

Upon the receipt of a sample, group specific blood the same ABO and Rh D group as the patient can be issued uncrossmatched within 10 minutes. Group specific blood must not be taken on the basis of blood groups done on previous admissions or at other institutions. A group must be performed on a sample collected during the current admission.

Emergency O Rh D Negative Uncrossmatched Blood

Group specific blood should be used in preference to O Negative blood whenever possible. The use of O Negative uncrossmatched blood is generally restricted to occasions when a sample is not immediately available. The TMU must be informed of the emergency by telephone whilst another staff member can be sent to collect the units. A pre-transfusion sample should be drawn if possible. The Emergency O Negative blood may be requested by calling the TMU Scientist and providing the following details:

- Patient UMRN, diagnosis, requesting clinician, location, contact number
- products required and degree of urgency

Neonatal Resuscitation Emergency O Rh D Negative Minipack

Two fresh ≤ 7 day old O Rh D Negative CMV negative K- minipacks will be held in Theatre Recovery monitored blood fridge for neonatal resuscitation. A single member of the Resuscitation Team in Theatre shall be allocated responsibility for:

- Notifying Blood Bank when minipacks are removed from the Recovery blood fridge.
- Providing maternal name and UMRN, requesting clinician, location and contact number to the TM Scientist.
- Collecting a crossmatch sample from the neonate, preferably pre-transfusion.
- Completing the 'Uncrossmatched Emergency O Negative' label attached to each minipack with date and time of minipack removal and/or return to Recovery blood fridge and, if transfused, ensuring the patient details are completed and Blood Bank informed. It is essential that TMU is advised of any minipacks out of fridge for greater than 30 minutes.

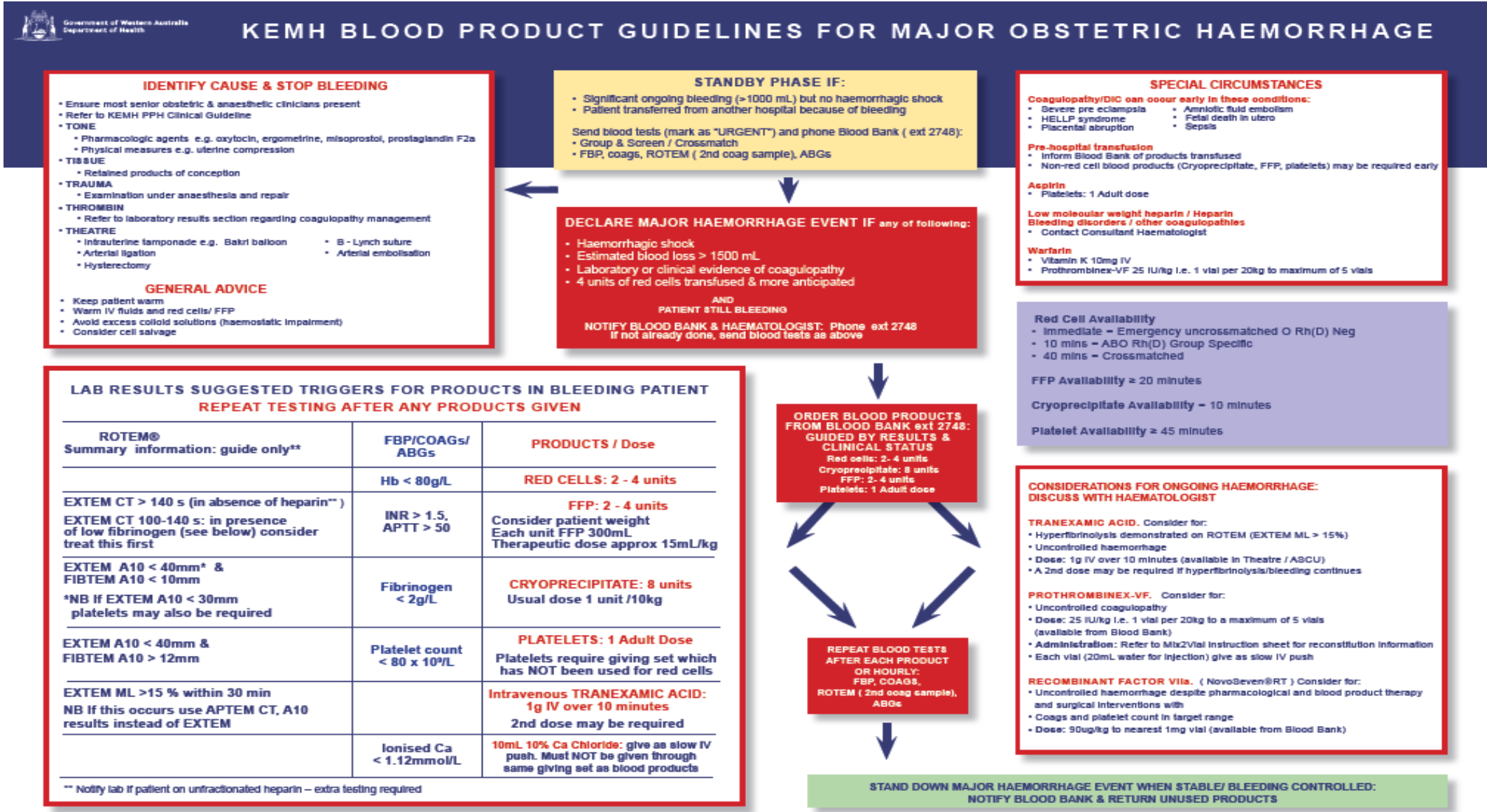
Fresh Frozen Plasma, Cryoprecipitate and Platelets

Urgent Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP) and Cryoprecipitate may be thawed for immediate use once the patient's blood group is determined. Urgent Platelets will need to be ordered from ARCBS as stocks of platelets are not held on site. This will incur a small delay whilst urgent delivery is organised. The TMU Scientist MUST be contacted and the patient's name and UMRN supplied **prior** to collection.

Major Haemorrhage Guideline

The Major Haemorrhage Guideline (aka MTP) provides a guideline for the multidisciplinary team dealing with a critical bleed. It activates a response within TMU so an increase in staffing may be organised to assist with priority thawing of frozen components and organisation of urgent blood products or replacement stock from ARCBS. The MTP is activated by calling the TMU Scientist with the following details:

- Patient UMRN, diagnosis, requesting clinician, location, contact number
- products required and degree of urgency



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Produced by Medical Illustration Ref: 15705-11
Developed and approved by Transfusion Committee King Edward Memorial Hospital March 2012

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- [National Blood Authority Patient Blood Management \(PBM\) Guidelines. 2011](#)
- Module 1 Critical Bleeding/ Massive Transfusion <https://www.blood.gov.au/pbm-module-1>
- Module 5 Obstetrics and Maternity <https://www.blood.gov.au/pbm-module-5>
- Module 6 Neonatal and Paediatrics <https://www.blood.gov.au/pbm-module-6>
- Australian Red Cross Blood Service – Blood products and transfusion practice for health professionals. [Australian Red Cross website](#)
- The Australian Blood Service (ARCBS) Blood Component Information <http://www.transfusion.com.au/sites/default/files/BCI%202009.pdf>
- Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion (ANZSBT) & Royal College of Nursing Australia (RCNA) Guidelines for the Administration of Blood Products 2nd Edition, December 2011 <http://www.anzsbt.org.au/publications/index.cfm#societyg>
- ANZSBT Guidelines for Pretransfusion Testing, 4th Edition, ANZSBT, 2007 <http://www.anzsbt.org.au/publications/index.cfm#societyg>




Related policies

- National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards, October 2012. [Standard 7: Blood and Blood Products](#)

Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines

- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Blood Product Prescription Consent and Refusal](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Blood Products Pre Transfusion Testing for Adults and Neonates](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Blood Products Issue Transportation and Storage](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Management of Transfusion Reactions and Adverse Events](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Checking Procedure Pre Administration of Blood Products](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Red Blood Cells Prescription and Administration](#)
- Transfusion Medicine Protocols [WNHS Fresh Frozen Plasma and Cryoprecipitate Administration](#)
- [Neonatology Clinical Care Guidelines](#)
- [Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Guidelines](#)
- [WNHS Pharmacy Medication Checking and Administration](#)

File path:	WNHS.HAEM.MajorHaemorrhageAndUrgentTransfusionRequests.pdf
Keywords:	Blood Transfusion, Blood products, urgent blood products, emergency blood products, emergency O Negative blood, ABO group specific blood, uncrossmatched blood, neonatal minipack for resuscitation, massive transfusion protocol, transfusion medicine unit, blood bank, theatre fridge, theatre fridge register, emergency O Rh D Negative blood, TMU scientist, major haemorrhage, urgent transfusion requests, fresh frozen plasma, cryoprecipitate, platelets, coagulopathy, DIC, bleeding
Document owner:	Chair of KEMH Hospital Transfusion Committee
Author / Reviewer:	Consultant Haematologist, Scientist in Charge Transfusion Medicine, KEMH Transfusion Coordinator
Date first issued:	01 01 2005

Last reviewed:	01 06 2015	Next review date:	01 03 2020
Endorsed by:	KEMH Hospital Transfusion Committee	Date:	01 01 2017
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1  Governance, 5  Patient ID/Procedure Matching, 7  Blood Products		

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