

1 PRESCRIBING BLOOD COMPONENTS

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1.2 Informed Consent
Section 1
Transfusion Medicine Protocols
Women's & Newborn Health Services
Perth Western Australia

1.2 INFORMED CONSENT

Informed consent for transfusion means that a dialogue has occurred between the doctor and the patient. The significant risks, benefits and alternatives to transfusion including the patient's right to refuse should be discussed. To aid this discussion a range of patient information leaflets are available for use at WNHS, these include:-

Adults & Babies

Blood Transfusion - KEMH Patient Information Leaflet

Blood Transfusion for your Baby - KEMH Patient Information Leaflet

Pregnant Women

Anti D – You and Your Baby

Anti D – Information regarding Anti D for women with early pregnancy loss.

Surgical Patients

Blood Transfusion – Intraoperative Cell Salvage

All these leaflets may be viewed on the [Pathology - Patient Information](#) page of the WNHS intranet

Stocks of these leaflets may be obtained by contacting the Transfusion Medicine Laboratory or by emailing the Transfusion Coordinator.

There is also a Multi cultural consent checklist with brochures available in different languages available on the ARCBS website. Click here to open → [Multi cultural consent checklist](#)

As a result of the consent discussion the patient should:

- Understand what medical action is recommended and be given an opportunity to ask questions.
- Be aware of the risks and benefits associated with the transfusion.
- Appreciate the risks and possible consequences of not receiving the recommended therapy.
- Give consent for the transfusion.

Informed consent must be documented in the patient's medical notes e.g. in the progress notes, as a named risk on the consent form for a procedure

The length of time that consent is valid may range from a single prescription to an episode of care.

In the event of the patient being unable to give consent for whatever reason, Local, State or Federal Legislation regarding consent for a medical procedure will apply.

If the patient/parent REFUSES to Consent for Blood Transfusion see **Section 1.6 Refusal of Blood Products**