



<p>COMPETENCIES FOR TRANSFUSIONISTS OF BLOOD COMPONENTS AND/OR BLOOD PRODUCTS</p>	<p>NLBCP-062</p>
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Competencies for Transfusionists of Blood Components and/or Blood Products

Name: _____ Date: _____
Division: _____ Years of
Experience: _____

As a transfusionist, you are responsible for maintaining a level of knowledge and practice to remain competent in your role. Annual completion and documentation of ongoing education in transfusion medicine is an accreditation requirement. Education for transfusion of blood components and/or administration of blood products focuses on the competencies listed below. Please perform a self-assessment to identify your level of competence with each item. Initial and date the appropriate column and return the list to the preceptor/educator, or designate. If you determine you require further education or clinical experience in any of the transfusion competencies applicable to your clinical area, notify your educator or designate to request additional education or clinical experience.

NOTE: Following initial education, you are responsible to seek appropriate continuing education and opportunities to ensure competence is maintained.

Levels of Competence:

- Theory/Classroom setting only
- Knowledgeable, requires additional clinical practice
- Able to perform independently
- Not applicable (N/A)

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
1. Articulates knowledge of blood components including definition (composition and properties); care, safety and quality considerations; indications for transfusion: a) Red cells b) Plasma c) Platelets d) Cryoprecipitate e) Other	a)					
	b)					
	c)					
	d)					
	e)					
2. Distinguishes ABO group substitution for blood components: a) ABO compatible red cells b) ABO compatible plasma	a)					
	b)					
3. Articulates knowledge of blood products including definition (composition and properties); dosages; care, safety and quality considerations; indications for administration: a) Albumin b) Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG)	a)					
	b)					

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
c) Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIG) d) Prothrombin Complex Concentrates e) Factor Concentrates f) Other	c)					
	d)					
	e)					
	f)					
4. Articulates knowledge of informed consent requirements for blood components and blood products.						
5. Verifies all components of prescriber order present including but not limited to: a) Indication for transfusion/administration b) Recipient's name and healthcare number c) Informed consent completed d) Component or product to transfuse/administer e) Number of unit(s)/dose/volume specified f) Date and time of infusion g) Flow rate of infusion h) Special requirements (e.g.						

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
irradiated, washing) i) Pre-medication(s) if required						
6. Demonstrates knowledge of transfusion of blood components for the following recipients: a) Adult (including older children) b) Pediatric c) Neonatal	a)					
	b)					
	c)					
7. Demonstrates knowledge of administration of blood products for the following recipients: a) Adult (including older children) b) Pediatric c) Neonatal	a)					
	b)					
	c)					
8. Demonstrates knowledge of the availability and storage location of educational materials for transfusion medicine.						
9. Provides teaching to recipient/support person incorporating: a) Information on specific blood component/product being						

Competency	Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
transfused/administered b) Potential signs and symptoms of a transfusion reaction					
10. Recognizes and responds to the recipient/support person capacity to understand the information provided: a) Modify teaching when required b) Utilize teaching aids (e.g. pamphlets) as required					
11. Implements positive recipient identification at all phases of care related to transfusion of blood components/administration of blood products including: a) Sample collection b) Compatibility testing c) Verification of transfusion order d) Request for and removal of the component or product from lab e) Prior to initiation of each transfusion/administration f) Post transfusion investigations					

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
12. Articulates knowledge of investigations required and acceptable timelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Prior to transfusion/administration b) Compatibility testing c) Post transfusion d) If transfusion reaction suspected e) Actions required upon receipt of results f) Other 						
13. Confirms appropriate venous access established for blood component(s) or blood product(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Access type (peripheral/central/subcutaneous, etc.) b) Venous catheter size 						
14. Recognizes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Temperature storage requirements of blood components/products b) Transportation and storage 						

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
requirements following removal from Blood Bank c) Appropriate time to request blood component/product from the lab prior to transfusion/administration.						
15. Articulates knowledge of the process to obtain blood components/products from the Blood Bank/Transfusion Medicine Laboratory.						
16. Articulates knowledge of timelines surrounding removal of blood component/product from temperature controlled storage and onset and completion of transfusion. Identifies steps to take to prevent wastage.						
17. Articulates knowledge of infusion rates and indications for rate adjustments: a) Blood components (e.g. RBCs, platelets, plasma, cryo) b) Blood products (e.g. IVIG, factor concentrates, albumin)	a)					
	b)					

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
18. Applies knowledge of administration sets: a) Selection of appropriate administration set b) Criteria to change administration set						
19. Prepares and demonstrates safe use of equipment as per manufacturer's instructions: a) Infusion pump b) Blood warmer c) External pressure device d) Rapid infuser	a)					
	b)					
	c)					
	d)					
20. Aseptically prepares administration set and acceptable priming solution for: a) Blood product b) Blood component c) Massive transfusion d) Rapid transfusion	a)					
	b)					
	c)					
	d)					
21. Prepares for blood component/product transfusion/administration by						

Competency	Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
<p>ensuring completion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Visual inspection of component/product b) Positive identification by two (2) health care providers using two (2) unique identifiers at bedside. 					
<p>22. Assesses recipient's vital signs and any additional individualized assessments/monitoring (e.g. cardiac monitoring , chest auscultation, etc.) when indicated :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Prior to transfusion b) After the first 15 minutes c) At prescribed intervals, as per site/unit/RHA policy d) At the end of the unit/dose within 30-60 minutes e) If there is a suspected reaction. 					
<p>23. Maintains asepsis with all connections and components/products prior to, during, and on completion of the transfusion.</p>					

Competency	Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
24. Utilizes personal protective equipment when handling blood components and blood products.					
25. Initiates and completes infusion within acceptable timelines.					
26. Recognizes signs and symptoms of a transfusion reaction and sequence of nursing actions required.					
27. Responds to a suspected transfusion reaction: a) Follows algorithm for transfusion reaction (discontinuation of transfusion/administration, infuse normal saline, reassess recipient, notify lab/ physician, request bloodwork, etc.). b) Provides counseling to recipient as required.					
28. Complies with standard precautions and RHA policy for disposal of blood administration sets and blood bags.					

Competency		Theory/ Classroom setting only	Requires further Clinical Practice	Independent	N/A	Comments
29. Accurately documents all aspects of blood transfusion/administration including but not limited to : a) Pretesting b) Unequivocal identification of recipient and each blood component/product matched to recipient c) Recipient teaching d) Date and time of each administration/ transfusion e) Assessments and monitoring results f) Any signs/symptoms of a reaction g) Post transfusion investigations h) Other						
30. Complies with all RHA policies and procedures for blood components and blood products.						

Comments:

Transfusionist's Signature:

Date:

Comments:

Educator/Manager/Designate Signature:

Date:
