A. Interpreter / cultural needs

An Interpreter Service is required?  Yes  No
If Yes, is a qualified Interpreter present?  Yes  No
A Cultural Support Person is required?  Yes  No
If Yes, is a Cultural Support Person present?  Yes  No

This consent primarily includes intravenous or central venous line infusion of fresh blood and blood products, red cells, platelets and plasma (e.g. fresh frozen plasma and cryoprecipitate)

B. Why am I having a transfusion?

Your doctor has recommended that you have a transfusion of blood or blood products, which are from volunteer donors. Blood is collected and screened by the Australian Red Cross Service.

A transfusion is necessary to replace a part of your blood and is given to either;

- replace red blood cells to treat or prevent anaemia, improve oxygen transport and relieve symptoms of dizziness, tiredness or shortness of breath or
- to give you platelets to help stop or prevent bleeding or
- to give a fresh plasma product to stop, treat or prevent bleeding.

Transfusions are given via cannulae (needle in your vein) or via a central line into your vein. During your transfusion you will be closely watched for any possible reactions. You will also be regularly checked as to whether you may need another blood transfusion.

The doctor has explained that I have the following medical condition for which I need a transfusion: (Doctor to document in patient’s own words)

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Your medical condition requires the following blood products. DOCTOR TO INDICATE PRODUCTS

☐ Red Cells
☐ Platelets
☐ Fresh Frozen Plasma
☐ Cryoprecipitate

FREQUENCY OF THE TREATMENTS. (Doctor can specify that the frequency may vary during the course of treatment)

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C. Risks of blood and blood products transfusion consent

Most common reactions to fresh blood or blood products that are being transfused are:

- high temperature
- rash, itching and hives
- feeling a bit unwell.

Rare risks are:

- having too much blood/fluids giving you shortness of breath.
- haemolysis, the abnormal breakdown of red blood cells.
- the development of antibodies which may complicate future transfusions and/or organ or tissue transplants. If these complications develop in women they can potentially cause problems for all current and future unborn babies.
- lung injury causing shortness of breath.
- the spread of viral or other infectious germs from the blood of the donors.
- very rarely, these above reactions can cause severe harm or possibly death.

There are specific problems for long term multiple transfusions that may be relevant to your medical condition. Your Doctor will discuss these with you

D. Other relevant treatment options

In some situations there maybe other choices to a blood transfusion and these include – fluid replacement with saline or other artificial compounds and/or iron supplements.

Your Doctor will discuss these with you as some choices are not suitable for everybody.

(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)
I acknowledge that the doctor has explained;

- my medical condition and the proposed procedure, including additional treatment if the doctor finds something unexpected. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- other relevant procedure/treatment options and their associated risks.
- my prognosis and the risks of not having the procedure.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure will improve my condition even though it has been carried out with due professional care.
- if immediate life-threatening events happen during the procedure, they will be treated based on my discussions with the doctor or my Acute Resuscitation Plan.

I have been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:
- Blood & Blood Products Transfusion Consent
- Blood who needs it? A consumer brochure
- Blood Transfusion- Questions to ask your doctor
- Blood components: A guide for patients

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.

I understand I have the right to change my mind at any time, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.

I understand that image/s or video footage may be recorded as part of and during my procedure and that these image/s or video/s will assist the doctor to provide appropriate treatment.

On the basis of the above statements,
Consen Information - Patient Copy
Blood and Blood Products Transfusion Consent

1. Why am I having a blood and/or blood products transfusion?
Your doctor has recommended that you have a transfusion of blood or blood products, which are from volunteer donors. Blood is collected and screened by the Australian Red Cross Service.

A transfusion is necessary to replace a part of your blood.
A transfusion is given to either;
• replace red blood cells to treat or prevent anaemia, improve oxygen transport and relieve symptoms of dizziness, tiredness or shortness of breath or
• to give you platelets to help stop or prevent bleeding or
• to give a fresh plasma product to stop, treat or prevent bleeding.

Transfusions are given via a cannula (needle in your vein) or a central line into your vein. You will be closely watched for any reactions. You will also be regularly checked as to whether you need another blood transfusion.

2. What are the risks of having a blood or blood products (fresh) transfusion
Most common reactions to the blood and blood products that are being transfused are:
• high temperature
• rash, itching and hives
• feeling a bit unwell
Rare risks are:
• having too much blood/fluids giving you shortness of breathe.
• Haemolysis, the abnormal breakdown of red blood cells
• the development of antibodies which may complicate future transfusions and/or organ or tissue transplants. If these complications develop in women they can potentially cause problems for all current and future unborn babies.
• lung injury causing shortness of breath.
• the spread of viral or other infectious germs from the blood of the donors.
• very rarely, these above reactions can cause severe harm or possibly death.

3. What are other relevant treatment options that you may have?
In some situations there may be other choices to a blood transfusion and these include- fluid replacement with saline or other artificial compounds and/or iron supplements.

Please discuss these options with your doctor as they are not suitable for everybody.

Extra written information is available and may include:
– Blood who needs it? – A consumer brochure
    (Australian Government - National Health Medical Research Council)

– Blood Transfusion – Questions to ask your doctor.
    (Australian Red Cross Blood Service)

English and multicultural patient information leaflets are available.
More detailed information can be found at the following websites.

– Blood Components: A Guide for Patients
    (National Health Medical Research Council)

– Australian Red Cross Blood Service

All sites provide excellent information, including statistical information.

Notes to talk to my doctor about:

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