The Blood Unit

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Blood Transfusions: More information

My doctor has ordered a transfusion of blood or platelets – where can I learn more?

Transfusions of blood and blood products in Australia come from a highly regulated and carefully tested supply. Blood donors in Australia are strictly screened, and as a result we have one of the safest blood supplies in the world.

Blood and blood products are a precious resource which we use carefully, according to evidence-based guidelines and with the informed consent of our patients.

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service has a series of excellent blood transfusion fact sheets that we highly recommend to our patients. Patients at The Blood Unit are particularly recommended to read some of the following:

What are transfusion adverse events or side effects?
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/487

Why do cancer patients need blood transfusion?
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/699

How is blood given to a patient?
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/327

What happens if I need a blood transfusion?
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/308

I need to know about blood products in pregnancy.
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/652

I need to know about transfusion during surgery.
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/253

What happens when I receive a blood transfusion?
HTTP://RESOURCES.TRANSFUSION.COM.AU/CDM/REF/COLLECTION/P16691COLL1/ID/251

There is also a large number of excellent fact sheets on the risks of transfusion in Australia. We highly recommend this website for patients wishing to learn more.