

## Transfusion Reaction – Quick Reference Guide

**STOP the transfusion. Do NOT infuse the remaining blood component/product in the line.**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do not discard product.</li> <li>2. Disconnect the set from the IV site, while maintaining sterility of the blood product and IV set.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using new IV set, administer Normal Saline (or D5W for IVIG infusion) at TKVO.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Contact MD/designate for medical assessment/treatment</li> <li>4. Assess the patient's vital signs at least every 15 minutes until patient is stable</li> <li>5. Perform visual assessment of product</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Check for clerical discrepancies             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm patient identification matches blood tag</li> <li>• Confirm patient demographics and all documentation matches:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ID band/health card</li> <li>○ Physician order in chart</li> <li>○ Tag on product</li> <li>○ Label on product</li> <li>○ Transfusion Medicine Results Report</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>7. Notify blood bank/lab</li> </ol> |
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**Table 1:**

Clinical Signs and Symptoms (S/S)	Transfusion Reaction Form	Sealed Blood Product	Patient Samples	Send to Blood Bank	"Ongoing Transfusion Care"
IVIG related, mild transient S/S- side effects that resolve with reduced flow rate or medication	No	No	None		May restart the transfusion at a slower rate with appropriate medication and frequent vital signs <b>if</b> ordered by the physician after consultation regarding the patient's condition  Direct observation for 15 minutes following transfusion re-establishment
Urticaria or pruritus with any blood component/product	Yes	No	None		
Oral temperature rise greater than 1°C <b>AND</b> Temperature between 38 and 38.9°C <b>AND</b> no associated major symptoms <b>AND</b> onset greater than 10 minutes into transfusion	Yes	No	None		
IVIG related S/S that are moderate or severe or unresponsive to <b>"Ongoing Transfusion Care"</b>	Yes	Yes	None		<b>DO NOT restart transfusion</b>
Suspected bacterial contamination (see Table 2 for S/S)	Yes	Yes (avoid contamination of product)	2 EDTA (purple tubes) <b>AND</b> Patient Blood Cultures are recommended (see back of algorithm for bacteria culture references)		
All other unexpected signs or symptoms with any blood component/product	Yes	Yes (avoid contamination of product)	2 EDTA (purple tubes)		

**Table 2:**

SUSPECT Bacterial Contamination of the blood component/product IF patient has Signs or Symptoms A,B,C or D as follows:			
<b>A.</b> Temperature rise more than 1 °C <b>AND</b> greater than 39°C	<b>B.</b> Temperature rise greater than 1°C <b>AND</b> between 38°C <b>AND</b> 39°C with: *Rigors *Hypotension *Tachycardia *Dyspnea and/or *Shock	<b>C.</b> Temperature rise not responding to antipyretic <b>AND/OR</b>	<b>D.</b> Suspicion of sepsis in absence of fever

**NOTE: Consult Transfusion Medicine MD on Call if replacement blood products are required urgently.**