

TRANSFUSE SAFELY



Just One

Red Blood Cell transfusion is indicated for the treatment of symptomatic anemia.

For non-bleeding hospitalized adult patients, a single unit transfusion is recommended.

Prior to second unit, evaluation of symptoms and repeat Hgb is used to determine appropriateness.

Hgb 81g/L or greater

STOP

Do NOT transfuse!

If most recent Hgb is 81g/L or greater, red blood cells will not be issued without approval by Transfusion Medicine physician on-call.

Hgb 71-80g/L

EVALUATE

If most recent Hgb is 71-80g/L, and patient is symptomatic transfuse one unit of red blood cells. Consider non-transfusion alternatives for asymptomatic anemia.

Hgb 70g/L or less

GO

If most recent Hgb is 70g/L or less, transfuse one unit of red blood cells.

Risks of transfusion include:

- Transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO) 1 in 700 units issued
 - Transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) 1 in 5,000
 - Hemolytic transfusion reaction 1 in 40,000
 - Death 1 in 117,000
 - Septic reaction 1 in 500,000

Transfusion Medicine physician is available through hospital paging 204-787-2071 for clinical consultations.