

Western General Hospital
House Officers Guide to Blood Ordering

General Surgery

Small bowel resection	G&S
Colostomy	G&S
Ileostomy/ileal pouch	G&S
Cholecystectomy (lap or open)	G&S
Delorme's procedure	G&S
Thyroidectomy (total or subtotal)	G&S
Hemicolectomy	2 units
Laparotomy	2 units
Colectomy	3 units
Rectopexy	3 units
Proctocolectomy	3 units
AP resection	4 units

Urology

Transurethral resection prostate	G&S
Bladder neck incision	G&S
Transurethral resection of bladder tumour	G&S
Laparoscopic nephrectomy	G&S
PERC	G&S
Pyeloplasty	G&S
Nephroureterectomy	2 units
Open nephrectomy	2 units
Cystectomy	4 units
Radical prostatectomy	4 units

Breast Surgery

Mastectomy	G&S
LD flap/breast reconstruction	G&S

ENT Surgery

Parotidectomy	No sample
Laryngectomy	G&S
Simple neck dissection	G&S
Complex neck dissection	G&S
Neck dissection and laryngectomy	G&S

Most minor operations do not require a sample

When ordering blood please comply with 'Better Blood Transfusion' practice. Please state the operation clearly and request blood as above. In practice most patients are suitable for 'electronic release'.

What is Electronic release?

- Blood is released directly from blood bank only when it is actually required; this reduces blood wastage and is now the preferred method of blood supply.
- Formal cross-match is not performed.
- Blood will still be available from the lab within 5 minutes.
- For electronic release to operate the following criteria must be met
 - No irregular antibodies
 - A previous sample from the patient and **second sample within 7 days of time of transfusion.**

Blood Components Summary

Sampling and requesting

- **Positively identify patients (your name please?)**
- **Check patients wristband (all patients having a transfusion should have a wristband)**
- **Handwrite patients name on the sample tube immediately after taking blood (do not put name labels on tubes)**
- **Complete request form fully (labels can be used on forms).**
- **How much blood do you need and when? Follow the guidelines for your clinical area.**

Electronic release

- **Blood is released directly from blood bank only when it is actually required; this reduces blood wastage and is now the preferred method of blood supply.**
- **Formal crossmatch not required.**
- **For electronic release to operate the following criteria must be met**
 - **No irregular antibodies**
 - **Not transplanted (stem cell or solid organ) in last 12 months**
 - **A previous sample from the patient and second sample within 7 days of time of transfusion.**

Red cells

- **for treating for anaemia or bleeding**
- **From single donations stored at 4°C in special blood fridge.**
- **Always ABO compatible, or O-ve in extreme emergency**
- **In cases of acute massive haemorrhages refer to Major Haemorrhage Protocol**
- **Always check haemoglobin before transfusion. Consider transfusion threshold carefully for each patient. As a rule maintain Hb 70-90g/l. With ischaemic heart disease 90-100g/l.**
- **Do not remove from fridge until definitely needed. If out of fridge for >30 mins should not be put back.**
- **Transfuse within 4 hours or return to lab for disposal.**

Fresh Frozen Plasma

- **Used for correcting coagulation defects. Prepared from single donations, stored frozen and thawed in the lab immediately prior to use.**
- **Always ABO compatible**

Platelets

- **Stored in lab at 22°C and issued for a specific patient.**
- **Usually group O or A and rhesus matched**
- **Do not refrigerate. Infuse within 30 mins.**

Cryoprecipitate

- **Used for treating fibrinogen deficiency**
- **Usually 10 separate donations are pooled together. (Currently not pooled at WGH but will soon come in a pack containing 5 donations).**
- **Usually ABO compatible or mixture of groups**

Contact the Haematology duty registrar (Bleep 8226) for advice on appropriate use of FFP, Platelets or Cryoprecipitate

Administration

- **One or two people can check patient identity against blood product.**
- **Check patient identity against blood pack and transfusion form. Check ABO compatibility.**
- **Infuse blood products through a blood giving set. Central lines can be used.**
- **Change the set after 12 hours or at end of transfusion.**
- **Platelets should be given through a fresh set. Consider the use of a blood warmer for rapid transfusion**