North East Regional Transfusion Committee

**Clinical Practice Assessment**

Authorisation of Red Cells and / or Platelets by Nurse Authorisers

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| Version | V3 |
| Ratified by | North East Regional Transfusion Committee |
| Date ratified | 22nd May 2018 |
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| Name of responsible committee | North East Regional Transfusion Committee |
| Date issued | 22nd May 2018 |
| Review date | April 2018 |
| Next review due | April 2021 |
| Target audience | Advanced Nurse Specialists |

**NAME OF CANDIDATE** (PLEASE PRINT) …………………………………………..........................

**NAME OF ASSESSOR** (PLEASE PRINT) …………………………………………........................

**DATE OF ASSSESSMENT** …………………………………………………………............................

**Guidance notes for assessors**

The assessment process consists of 3 elements:

1. Theoretical Competence using lectures and clinical supervision by a senior member of staff.
2. The practical assessment should follow a period of **clinical supervision** in which the authoriser should gain experience and practice at assessing all patients for transfusion and authorising red cells / platelets. The assessment should be undertaken after the authorisor has undertaken the regional training programme and is competent in transfusion practice.
3. The competence should be assessed by a Consultant who is up to date with mandatory transfusion training.

This assessment document is intended as a guide and can be adapted for your own Trust use.

**Practical assessment for authorisation of blood and blood components by nurse authorisers**

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| **Performance criteria** | **Assessment Method** | **Achieved/referred** |
| Anatomy and physiology of blood   * Understands the structure, growth and function of:   + Red cells   + White cells   + Platelets   + Plasma | Questioning | Achieved/referred |
| Understanding anaemia   * Can define the types of anaemia * Understands physiological processes for iron deficiency anaemia * Knows when to refer patients for further investigations * Understands the different types of iron therapies * Understands the use of EPO | Questioning | Achieved/referred |
| Interpreting blood results   * Understands normal and abnormal Haematology and biochemistry blood values * Ability to interpret results, initiate treatment and know if more tests and/or further evaluation is required | Questioning | Achieved/referred |
| Indications for the use of red cells and platelets   * Appropriate use of red cells / platelets * Can define the indications for use of red cells / platelets * Can make the decision for transfusion within best available evidence and local guidelines * Knows the alternatives to consider if appropriate * Knows when to consult with Haematologist with responsibility for transfusion as required | Questioning, observation and clinical supervision | Achieved/referred |
| Pre-transfusion testing process   * Has understanding of the pre transfusion sampling process * Has understanding of the BSH guidelines for pre transfusion testing * Understands sample labeling requirements * Has understanding of the laboratory processes for pre transfusion testing. | Questioning, observation and clinical supervision | Achieved/referred |
| Ordering red cells / platelets   * Has knowledge of local guidelines for ordering of blood components and be aware that the laboratory require the following details:   + Full name of patient   + When and where the patient is to be transfused   + How many units   + Any specific transfusion requirements | Questioning, observation and clinical supervision | Achieved/referred |
| Obtaining valid consent and the written instruction to transfuse the red cells / platelets   * Understands that valid consent should be:   + Gained once the risks, benefits and alternatives have been discussed   + Documented in the patients notes   + May include retrospective information   + May include a modified consent form for the long term multi-transfused * Understands that the written instruction includes:   + The length of time the transfusion is to take place   + The number of units   + The route of administration   + Concomitant drugs that need to be administered   + Can discuss the incompatibility of blood components with other infusion fluids/IV drugs | Questioning, observation and clinical supervision | Achieved/referred |
| Specific transfusion requirements   * Can define which patient groups will have specific blood requirements and why * Understands the reasons why it is important to have a process in place to prevent these patients receiving the wrong blood. | Questioning | Achieved/referred |
| Risks and adverse events associated with transfusion and how to deal with them   * Understands the risks of transfusion and describes what to do in an emergency situation. | Questioning, observation and clinical supervision | Achieved/referred |
| Legal responsibilities and Record keeping   * Has knowledge and understanding of NMC professional standards of practice and behavior for nurses and midwives (2015) * Can explain why the reason for transfusion should be recorded in the patient notes * Can explain why **all** actions must be documented. | Questioning | Achieved/referred |

**All elements must be completed – any omission should result in referral for further supervised practice and reassessment.**

**When the assessment is complete please delete and sign as indicated.**

**A copy of the completed document must be placed in the authoriser’s personal file.**

PASS / REFER

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of assessor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of assessor (please use capital letters) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of candidate (please use capital letters) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Notes to authoriser:**

As the authoriser it is your responsibility to ensure that your skills and competence

are maintained in order for you to correctly authorise blood components.

It is recommended that your skills and competence should be reviewed during your

Personal Development Review.