

## North East Regional Transfusion Committee

# Clinical Practice Assessment

Authorisation of Red Cells and / or Platelets by Nurse Authorisers

Version	V2
Ratified by	North East Regional Transfusion Committee
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Name of responsible committee	North East Regional Transfusion Committee
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Review date	January 2015
Next review due	January 2018
Target audience	Advanced Nurse Specialists

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

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

**DATE OF ASSESSMENT** .....

## **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 authoriser 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**

<b>Performance criteria</b>	<b>Assessment Method</b>	<b>Achieved/referred</b>
<p>Anatomy and physiology of blood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands the structure, growth and function of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Red cells</li> <li>○ White cells</li> <li>○ Platelets</li> <li>○ Plasma</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Questioning	Achieved/referred
<p>Understanding anaemia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can define the types of anaemia</li> <li>• Understands physiological processes for iron deficiency anaemia</li> <li>• Knows when to refer patients for further investigations</li> <li>• Understands the different types of iron therapies</li> <li>• Understands the use of EPO</li> </ul>	Questioning	Achieved/referred
<p>Interpreting blood results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands normal and abnormal Haematology and biochemistry blood values</li> <li>• Ability to interpret results, initiate treatment and know if more tests and/or further evaluation is required</li> </ul>	Questioning	Achieved/referred
<p>Indications for the use of red cells and platelets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate use of red cells / platelets</li> <li>• Can define the indications for use of red cells / platelets</li> <li>• Can make the decision for transfusion within best available evidence and local guidelines</li> <li>• Knows the alternatives to consider if appropriate</li> <li>• Knows when to consult with Haematologist with responsibility for transfusion as required</li> </ul>	Questioning and supervision	Achieved/referred
<p>Pre-transfusion testing process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has understanding of the pre transfusion sampling process</li> <li>• Has understanding of the BCSH guidelines for pre transfusion testing</li> <li>• Understands sample labeling requirements</li> <li>• Has understanding of the laboratory processes for pre transfusion testing.</li> </ul>	Questioning and supervision	Achieved/referred

<p>Ordering red cells / platelets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has knowledge of local guidelines for ordering of blood components and be aware that the laboratory require the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full name of patient</li> <li>When and where the patient is to be transfused</li> <li>How many units</li> <li>Any specific transfusion requirements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Questioning and supervision	Achieved/referred
<p>Obtaining valid consent and the written instruction to transfuse the red cells / platelets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands that valid consent should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gained once the risks, benefits and alternatives have been discussed</li> <li>Documented in the patients notes</li> <li>May include retrospective information</li> <li>May include a modified consent form for the long term multi-transfused</li> </ul> </li> <li>Understands that the written instruction includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The length of time the transfusion is to take place</li> <li>The number of units</li> <li>The route of administration</li> <li>Concomitant drugs that need to be administered</li> <li>Can discuss the incompatibility of blood components with other infusion fluids/IV drugs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Questioning / observation	Achieved/referred
<p>Specific transfusion requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can define which patient groups will have specific blood requirements and why</li> <li>Understands the reasons why it is important to have a process in place to prevent these patients receiving the wrong blood.</li> </ul>	Questioning	Achieved/referred
<p>Risks and adverse events associated with transfusion and how to deal with them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the risks of transfusion and describes what to do in an emergency situation.</li> </ul>	Questioning and supervision	Achieved/referred
<p>Legal responsibilities and Record keeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has knowledge and understanding of NMC standards of conduct, performance and ethics (2008)</li> <li>Can explain why the reason for transfusion should be</li> </ul>	Questioning	Achieved/referred

recorded in the patient notes • Can explain why <b>all</b> actions must be documented.		
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**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.