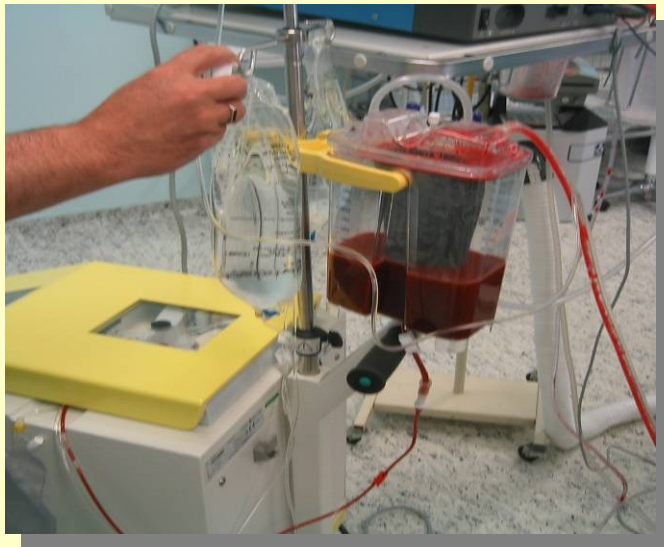


London Regional Transfusion Committee

Care pathways for the management of adult patients refusing blood (including Jehovah's Witness patients)



The Writing Group

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- 🔴 We are very grateful to **Rob Gargan**, Hospital Liaison Committee for Jehovah's Witnesses, London North for his comments and input.

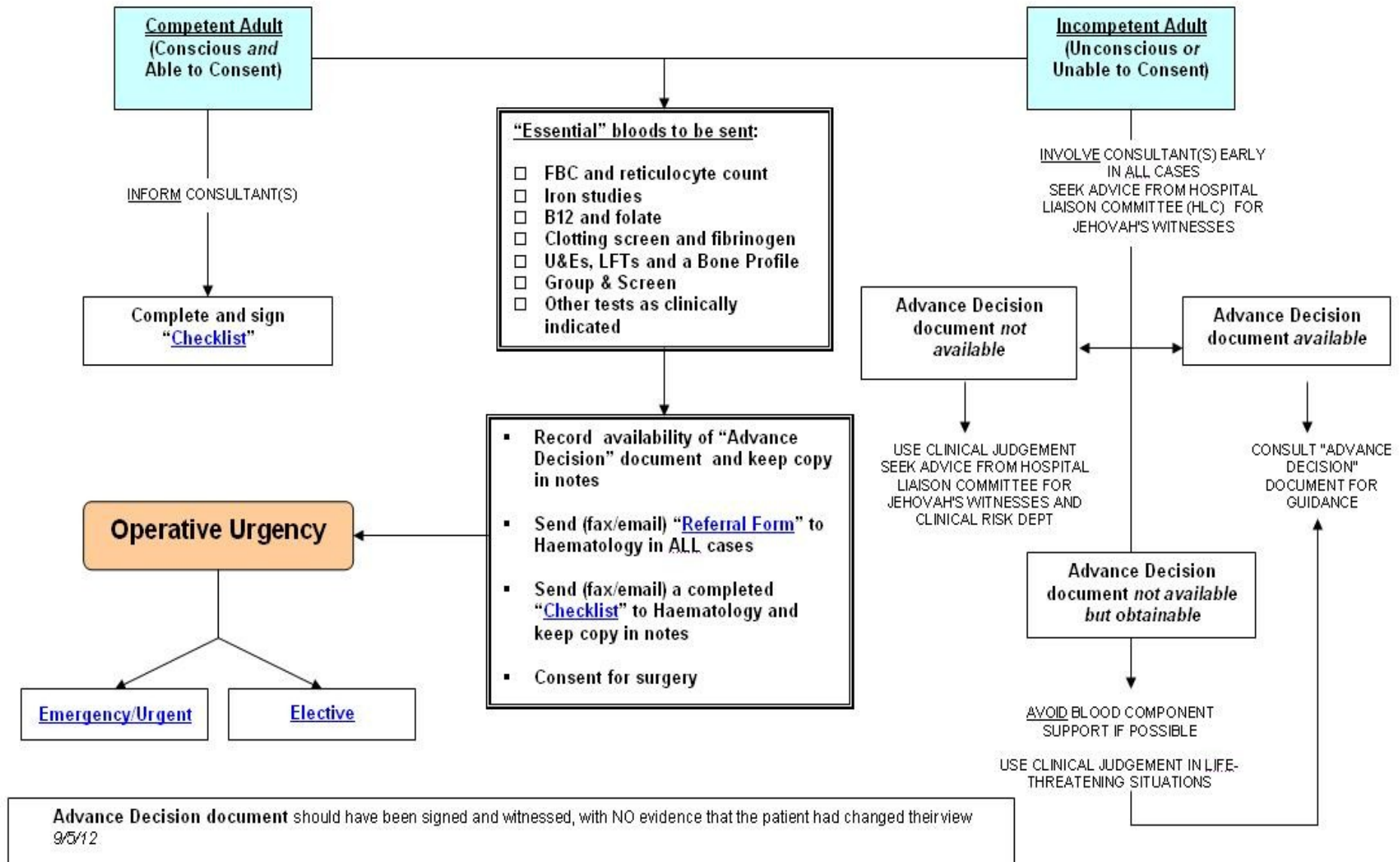
Aims

- Care pathways for adult surgical patients refusing blood/blood component therapy have been developed on behalf of the London Regional Transfusion Committee with the aim of promoting a more standardised approach to management.
- Many Trust will already have guidelines in place for patients refusing blood / Jehovah's Witnesses; these care pathways are not intended to replace existing systems, where they are already in place, but to act as a clinical resource.
- Trusts may wish to use this 'Toolkit' to help facilitate the practical application of guidelines or to use individual care pathways to augment existing guidelines at review.

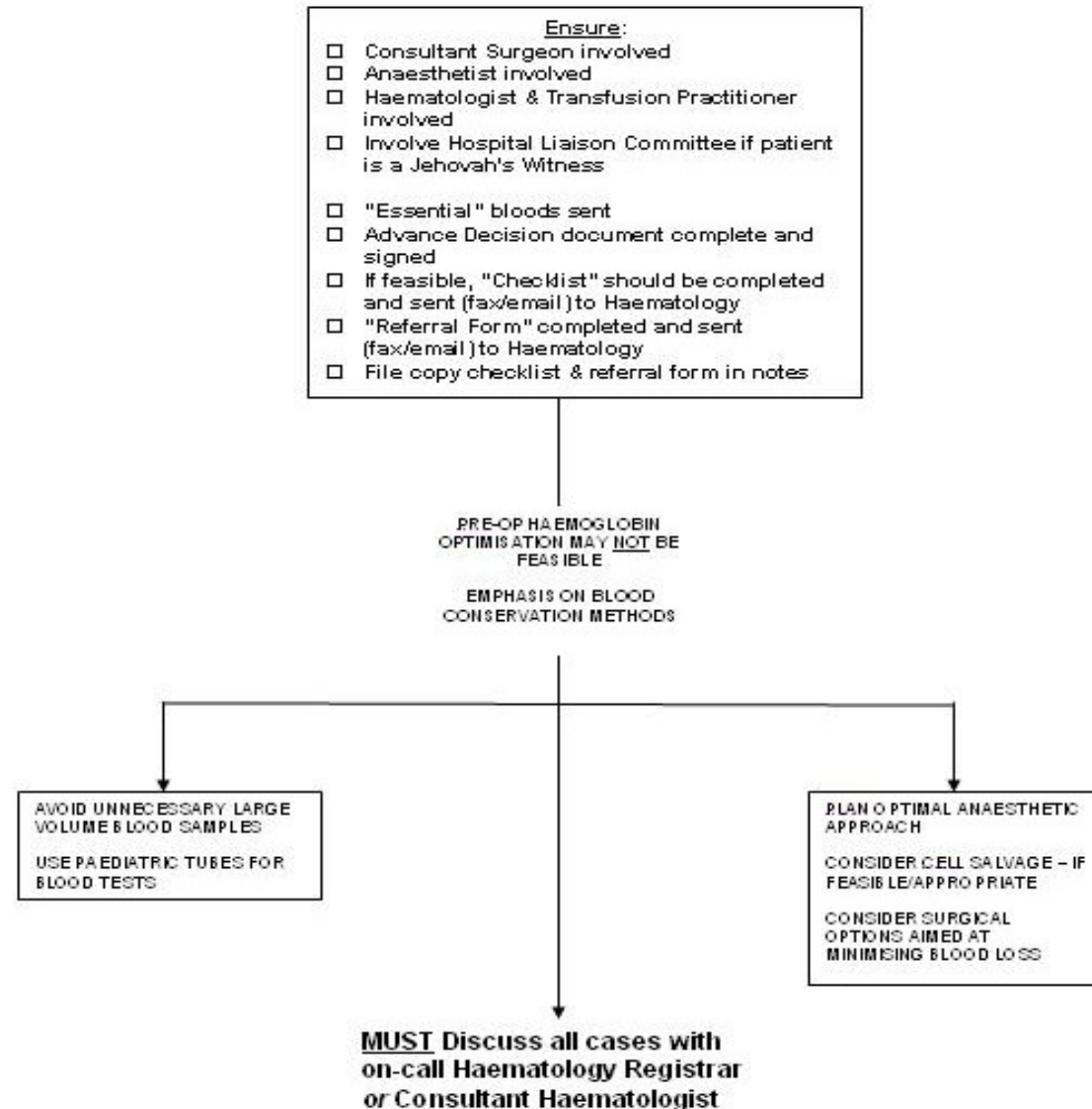
Care Pathways

- Care Pathway for Adult Surgical Patients Refusing Blood/Blood Component Support (Including Jehovah's Witnesses)
- Care Pathway for Adult Surgical Patients Refusing Blood/Blood Component Support (Including Jehovah's Witnesses) and Requiring Emergency/ Urgent Surgery
- Care Pathway for Adult Surgical Patients Refusing Blood/Blood Component Support (Including Jehovah's Witnesses) and Requiring Elective Surgery
- Care Pathway for pre-operative optimisation of Haemoglobin of Adult patients refusing blood
- Care Pathway for post-operative management of Adult patients refusing blood

Care Pathway for Adult Surgical Patients Refusing Blood/Blood Component Support (Including Jehovah's Witnesses)



Care Pathway for Adult Patients Refusing Blood/Blood Component Support (including Jehovah's Witnesses) and Requiring Emergency or Urgent Surgery



Additional Documents

- “Checklist” for surgical patients refusing blood/ blood component support (including Jehovah’s Witnesses)
- “Referral Form” for surgical patients refusing blood/ blood component transfusions (including Jehovah’s Witnesses)
- “Preliminary Plan” for surgical patients refusing blood/ blood component transfusions (including Jehovah’s Witnesses)
- Use of erythropoietin Therapy in Adult Surgical Patients Refusing Blood (Including Jehovah’s Witnesses)

Better Blood Transfusion 2



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For action by:

Strategic Health Authorities (England) – Chief Executive
Strategic Health Authorities (England) – Directors of Public Health
NHS Trusts – Chief Executives
Primary Care Trusts – Chief Executives and Main Contacts
NHS Blood & Transplant – Chief Executive

For information to:

Chief Medical Officers Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland
Nursing Statutory Bodies – Chief Executives
Professional Associations and Royal Colleges
Strategic Health Authority Directors of Public Health
Strategic Health Authority Directors of Performance Management
Strategic Health Authority Nurse Directors
Postgraduate Medical Deans
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Department of Health
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- Ensure that procedures are in place for managing Jehovah's Witness and other patients refusing blood

HTCs and HTTs working with clinical governance leads



Focus on surgical patients but signposts to additional guidance

- A care plan for women in labour refusing blood transfusion is available via the following link:
http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk/docs/pdfs/bbt-04_care-plan-v2.pdf
- A care plan for Jehovah's Witnesses with malignant disease is available at:
http://www.transfusionguidelines.org/docs/pdfs/bbt-03_malignant-diseases-v21.pdf
- For management of children or adolescents consider referring to guidance produced by Great Ormond Street Hospital and available at: <http://www.gosh.nhs.uk/health-professionals/clinical-guidelines/protocol-for-families-refusing-blood-and-blood-components-including-jehovahs-witnesses/>