فقيه
مجموعة فقيه للرعاية الصحية
Fakeeh Care Group

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PATIENT'S INFORMATION ABOUT BLOOD TRANSFUSION

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It's important to know that blood transfusion is an important procedure in case of Patients need and before transfusing blood your doctor will request it under your consent to ensure your safety and health improvement.

Why would I need a blood transfusion?

A blood component transfusion may be given because of a shortage of red blood cells or platelets in the blood, either because the body is not making enough of them, or due to loss of blood.

Sometimes the bone marrow. which produces blood cells, cannot make enough of them. This may be due to disease or a failure of the bone marrow to work properly. It may be temporary or a longer term problem.

Some treatments, such as chemotherapy.

can also effect the bone marrow in this way. In some cases the anemia can be treated with medicines: in other cases. a blood transfusion may be the best treatment.

Most people can cope with losing a moderate amount of blood without needing a blood transfusion, as this loss can be replaced with other supplements.

However, if larger amounts of blood are lost, a blood transfusion may be the best way of replacing blood rapidly.

A blood transfusion may be needed to treat severe bleeding, for example during or after an operation, childbirth or after a serious accident.

Platelet transfusion is used to treat bleeding due to critically decreased circulating platelet counts or functionally abnormal platelets.

Some diseases need transfusion of plasma as congenital coagulation factors defects or liver failure Ask your doctor to explain why you may need a blood transfusion.

Is a blood transfusion my only option?

Certain medical conditions causing anemia may be managed by treating the cause rather than by giving a blood transfusion.

If you are told that you might need a blood transfusion, you should ask why is it necessary and whether there are any alternative treatments.

You do have the right to refuse a blood transfusion, but you need to fully understand the consequences of this before doing so.

Some medical treatments or operations cannot be safely carried out without a blood transfusion being given.

Blood transfusion is only needed for a small number of patients having an operation. Sometimes it is possible to recycle your own blood during the operation. Ask if this is appropriate for you.

What Can I do to reduce the need for a blood transfusion before an operation?

1. Eat varied and balanced diet to provide adequate iron intake.
2. A blood sample should be taken before your operation to see if you are anemic.
3. Consult your doctor about medicine such as Warfarin, aspirin and some anti-inflammatory drugs may increase the risk of bleeding during your operation.
4. Do not stop taking any medications without consulting your doctor.
5. Taking iron supplement if your mildly anemic.

Are Blood transfusions safe?

Yes, the risk that a blood transfusion will make you ill is very low.

One of the most important ways of achieving a safe transfusion is to make sure you get the right blood. You can help reduce the small risk of being given the wrong blood by asking your nurse or doctor to check that it is the right blood for you.

You must be correctly identified at each stage of the transfusion to make sure that you get the right blood, including when blood samples are taken before the transfusion.

Wearing an identification band with your correct details is essential.

You will be asked to state your full name and the details on your identification band will be checked before each blood sample is taken and before each bag of blood is given.

It is alright to remind your nurse or doctor to ask you this.

Compared to other everyday risks the likelihood of getting an infection from a blood transfusion is very low.

All blood donors are volunteers.

They are very carefully selected and tested to make sure that the blood they donate is as safe as possible.

How will my blood transfusion be given?

A blood transfusion is usually given through a tiny tube directly into a vein in the arm. It may take up to four hours to give each bag of blood, but it can be safely given more quickly if needed. You may be given more than one bag of blood as part of your treatment.

Don't take your own medication during transfusion unless advised by your health care advisor.

How will I feel during my blood transfusion?

Most people do not feel anything whilst receiving a blood transfusion.

You will be observed before, during and after your blood transfusion.

If you feel unwell during or after it, you should inform your doctor or nurse immediately.

Some people may develop a temperature, chills or a rash.

These reactions are usually mild and are easily treated with medicines such as paracetamol or antihistarnines, or by slowing down or stopping the blood transfusion.

Severe reactions to blood are extremely rare.

If they do occur, staff is trained to recognize and treat them.

What if I have worries about receiving a blood transfusion?

If you have any concerns you should discuss these with your doctor, nurse.

Post Transfusion Instructions:

After blood transfusing on rare occasions, reactions to the transfusion can occur. Immediate Transfusion Reactions occur during the transfusion or within hours.
Delayed Transfusion Reactions occur within days or weeks of the transfusion.
If your symptoms are severe. please call for immediate medical assistance

Immediate Transfusion Reaction (Within hours):
It Is accompanied by some symptoms like difficulty in breathing, fever. rash or hives. If you experience any of these symptoms, please call for immediate medical assistance or go to the nearest Emergency Room

Delayed Transfusion Reaction (within 24 hours up to 30 days post transfusion):
Jaundice, a yellow skin color, or if the urine color turns red or brown are the main symptoms of delayed transfusion reaction, it is not a medical emergency, but you should notify your doctor as soon as possible about your symptoms. Be sure to tell your doctor that you've had a recent blood transfusion.

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