NHS
Royal Devon
University Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

ASSESSMENT OF CLINICAL COMPETENCY

Competency:

Role in transfusion process including administration

Aim and Objectives:	The practitioner is able to demonstrate supporting knowledge, understanding and has been observed as competent in their role in the transfusion process including administering a blood transfusion at Royal Devon University Healthcare Trust (RDUH).
Training Prerequisite:	Prior to this assessment, the practitioner has successfully completed the Transfusion E-learning and Assessment questions on Learn+ and received a barcode for the BloodTrack Tx system.
Watched the BloodTrack Tx audio presentations on HUB for:	• Labelling a transfusion sample • Accessing the Haemobank blood fridge • Blood component administration
Your responsibility:	• All staff should ensure that they keep their knowledge and skills up to date by accessing local policies, standard operating procedures and guidance. • Completing the transfusion e-learning 2 yearly. • It is the responsibility of the individual to work within their own sphere of competence relevant to their job role and to follow their Code of Conduct/Standards of Proficiency.
Employee Signature/print name: …… Date: ……..	

Competency statement:

The practitioner has been observed as competent in their role in the transfusion process. This includes the transfusion of blood components (e.g. red blood cells, platelets, fresh frozen plasma) and batch products (e.g. immunoglobulin, human albumin solution).

The competency considers the National Blood Transfusion Committee Standards for the Clinical Transfusion Process (2016).

Underpinning knowledge and understanding required:	Date of assessment and assessor initials
Provide documented evidence of up-to-date knowledge on transfusion matters within RDUH including the basic blood group system and compatible donors.	Transfusion module on Learn+ completed
Provides evidence to safely use BloodTrack Tx for sample labelling and traceability compliance.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the contingency if IT systems (EPIC and/or BloodTrack) are not available.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the legal, ethical and professional issues with regards to the administration of blood components and batch products.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the indications for blood components and batch products, expected benefits, risks and outcomes of transfusion.	
Demonstrates a working knowledge and understanding of techniques and strategies to minimise or eliminate the need for allogeneic (donated) blood transfusions.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the recognition and management of potential adverse reactions to transfusing blood components and batch products.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the correct checking procedures for collecting blood components and batch products from storage.	
Demonstrates the rationale behind the essential checking procedures and monitoring patients while receiving a transfusion.	
Demonstrates an understanding of why each blood unit should be regarded as a separate transfusion.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the correct records to complete and the importance of providing full traceability of blood components and batch products.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the procedure to follow if inadequate information, discrepancies or errors are identified.	
Demonstrates understanding of cold chain and traceability requirements for blood components and the implications of incorrect blood component storage.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the procedure to follow in the event of an adverse event or incident.	
Aware of own limitations and seek advice and assistance as necessary.	
Demonstrates an understanding of the local policies: • Blood Transfusion Policy • Infection Prevention and Control Policy • Injectable Medicines Policy & associated SOPs • Medicines Policy	
Demonstrates an awareness of the following national guidance: • Blood Safety and Quality Regulations • Health and Care Professional Council Standards	

• NMC The Code: Professional Standards of practice and behaviour for nurses and midwives • Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) Report	

Assessment of competency:

Performance Criteria	Date of assessment and assessor initials
For settings away from the main Trust site staff must demonstrate they can correctly receive blood components/products from the transfusion laboratory.	
On receiving the sealed blood box from transfusion, demonstrates how to check: • Location is correct on both box and paperwork, • The paperwork is correctly completed, • The temperature logger light is green and know what to do if it is red, • Know what to do if there are any problems or discrepancies, • The blood components/products are stored correctly and blood box handed back to the courier for return to the transfusion laboratory.	
Pre-collection checks:	
Checks there is a valid Transfuse Order / Prescription on EPIC noting any special transfusion requirements.	
Confirms the patient's understanding and consent to the transfusion. For non-emergency transfusions, ensures the patient has received information and been given the opportunity to ask questions.	
Checks that the patient and staff are ready for the transfusion to take place.	
Checks to confirm the patency of the cannula/vascular access device to prevent a delay in commencing the transfusion.	
Checks the component/product is ready to collect using BloodTrack Enquiry and prints the pick up slip.	
Checks and records the patient's vital signs (Early Warning Score) to determine the baseline.	
Carries out the correct procedure for collecting the blood components and batch products from storage:	
1. Has the correct pick up slip with full patient identification and electronic access to the blood fridge. 2. Selects the correct product and carries out a visual check to ensure suitable to use i.e. correct patient details, product type, donation number, blood group, expiry date, no leaks. 3. Completes the electronic system for removing blood components from the blood fridge. 4. Delivers to the clinical area without delay. 5. Ensure receipt of blood component has been acknowledged by the responsible registrant on BloodTrack Tx.	

6. Explains the appropriate action to take if there is a discrepancy with the patient's identity details from the clinical area or if there are other concerns. 7. Explains the procedure for collecting the emergency Group O red cells.	
Performance Criteria	**Date of assessment and assessor initials**
At the patient:	
Aware that a transfusion must be commenced without delay after collection from storage.	
On receipt in the clinical area performs the final checks correctly: 1. Carries out Positive Patient Identification to confirm the patient's name and date of birth with the patient, as appropriate. 2. Check details match on the patient's identity name band, prescription and the label attached to the blood component/product. 3. Checks details on the product match the details on the compatibility label. 4. Explains the appropriate actions if there is a discrepancy with any details. 5. Checks the product is within date and suitable to be administered. 6. Notes any special requirements e.g. use of a blood warmer, irradiated product. 7. Notes and administers additional medication if prescribed e.g. Furosemide	
Uses BloodTrack Tx to log the pre-transfusion safety checks are completed.	
Selects the correct administration set and infusion pump, if applicable.	
Primes the administration set correctly with the blood product and connects to the patient's cannula/vascular access device in a safe manner using aseptic non-touch technique (ANTT).	
Selects the correct rate (gravity infusion or using the appropriate infusion device).	
Records on the EPIC Blood Flowsheet to confirm the correct checking procedure has been carried out and indicating the date and time the transfusion was commenced.	
Explains the procedure for recording the emergency Group O red cells in life threatening emergencies with the authorisation of lead clinician.	
Alerts the patient to the symptoms of a reaction to report.	
Observes the patient and records vital signs (Early Warning Score) accordingly, dependent on the patient's clinical condition.	
Able to assess the patient for early detection of an adverse event associated with the transfusion and act accordingly if suspected.	
Maintain fluid intake and output record as appropriate.	
Record the volume transfused and the time the transfusion was completed on the EPIC Blood Flowsheet.	

For blood products, completes and returns the completed label to the Transfusion Laboratory to confirm the transfusion and maintain traceability.	
Applies standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures.	

Signatures on Completion:

Signature of Practitioner:	
Print name:	Position:
Department/Team:	Date:
Signature of Assessor:	
Print name:	Position:
Department/Team:	Date:

This is a one off competency as per national guidance and local transfusion policy; however it is a professional responsibility to seek additional training via your line manager or blood champion if you do not feel competent or confident in your role in the transfusion process.

On completion of this document:

- the original copy should be retained by the employee for their portfolio
- For Northern Services, scan a copy to rduh.ivnurses@nhs.net
- For Eastern Services, complete the electronic submission form available on the Exeter Clinical Laboratory Website accessed from HUB: Blood Transfusion
- Upload a scanned copy to your personal Learn+ account.