

# Patient Blood Management

Optimising the care of patients who may need transfusion

## What is Patient Blood Management (PBM)?

**PBM** is an evidence-based, multi-disciplinary approach to optimising the care of patients who may need a blood transfusion.

**PBM** puts the patient at the heart of decision making.

**PBM** represents an international initiative in best practice for transfusion medicine.

## Why is PBM needed?

**Improve** patient outcomes.

**Reduce** healthcare costs.

**Avoid** inappropriate use of blood – blood is then available for those who really need it.



**National clinical audits consistently show inappropriate use of all blood components of between 15-30%**

## Who needs to be involved?

- Everyone involved in patient care
- Patients
- Clinicians from both primary and secondary care
- Laboratory staff

## Establishing a PBM Programme

Include:

1. Patient and staff education
2. Active management of anaemia
3. Minimise the volume of blood samples taken
4. Use restrictive threshold values
5. In non-bleeding patients transfuse one dose of blood component, then reassess
6. Active management of abnormal haemostasis
7. Use alternatives to transfusion where appropriate
8. Surgical Patients
  - a. Detect and treat pre-operative anaemia
  - b. Minimise blood loss and bleeding
  - c. Be aware of drug interactions that can increase risk of anaemia



**Remember to investigate and treat anaemia promptly!**

For further information and to **get involved** with PBM in your hospital, contact your local Transfusion Practitioner or call 01865 381 032 for local PBM network details.

Further information and details on PBM initiatives and strategies can be found at

[www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk)

<http://hospital.blood.co.uk/>



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