

PRODUCT	NEEDLE SIZE	ADMINISTRATION TIME	VITAL SIGNS (Includes Temperature)	KEY POINTS
I. WHOLE BLOOD	18 or 20 G Catheter	1.5 - 2.0 Hours or as ordered, but no more than 4.0 Hours per unit.	Check VS before transfusion, 15 min after starting & every hour thereafter. Continue Q1 Hour VS x 4 Hours after transfusion.	If allowed to hang more than 4 Hours, there is an increased chance of cell hemolysis & bacterial growth.
II. PACKED RED BLOOD CELLS	18 or 20 G Catheter	1.5 - 2.0 Hours or as ordered, but no more than 4.0 Hours per unit.	Check VS before transfusion, 15 min after starting & every hour thereafter. Continue Q1 Hour VS x 4 Hours after transfusion.	If allowed to hang more than 4 Hours, there is an increased chance of cell hemolysis & bacterial growth.
III. WHITE BLOOD CELLS (Leukocyte concentrate)	18 or 20 G Catheter	1.5 - 2.0 Hours or as ordered, but no more than 4.0 Hours per unit.	Check VS before transfusion, 15 min after starting & every hour thereafter. Continue Q1 Hour VS x 4 Hours after transfusion.	WBC induces fever & chills. Pre-medicate with antipyretics as ordered.
IV. PLATELETS	20 or 21 G Catheter	10 - 20 ml / 3 minutes	Check VS before transfusion, 15 min after starting and upon completion.	Elevated temperature destroys platelets.
V. PLASMA	20 or 21 G Catheter	0.5 Hour per unit	Check VS before and after transfusion.	Give FFP within 2 Hours after thawing
VI. ALBUMIN	20 or 21 G Catheter	1 ml / 1 minute	Check VS before transfusion, 15 min after starting and upon completion.	
VII. CRYOPRECIPITATE CONCENTRATE A.H.F or FACTOR VIII	20 or 21 G Catheter	2 ml / 1 minute	Check VS before and after transfusion.	

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

1. Blood transfusion reaction can occur immediately after starting, during, and 4 hours after the transfusion.
2. Instruct patient to report any unusual sensations or conditions that occur during or after transfusion, including [a] chills, [b] lower back pain, [c] excessive perspiration, [d] nausea, or [e] even a vague sense of uneasiness.
3. Only 0.9% NaCl solution may be used when infusing blood.
4. Blood and blood products must be infused +/-30 minutes of leaving the Blood Bank. Return the blood to the Blood Bank if unable to start within 30 minutes.
5. **Check IV site before transfusion, 15 minutes after initiation, and hourly until transfusion is completed.**
6. **Use only Y-tubing.** Change Y-tubing with each unit of **whole blood or PRBC.**
7. **For transfusion reaction:** Stop the transfusion and change IV Tubing down to the insertion point. Keep vein open with 0.9% NaCl solution. Monitor vital signs.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Refer to the Patient Care Standard on Management of Patients Receiving Blood / Blood Products.