BDS17 Organise the receipt of blood/blood products for transfusion

About this workforce competence
This workforce competence covers your role in organising the receipt of blood/blood products from the hospital blood bank or satellite fridge for a patient who needs a blood transfusion.

This involves taking action to ensure you order the correct blood/blood product for the correct patient. It also involves checking and confirming the correct blood/blood product for the correct patient has been received from storage.

This workforce competence is relevant for all staff responsible for making sure that the correct blood/blood product is given to the correct patient.

This workforce competence has specific links with the following workforce competences related to transfusion of blood/blood products:

- BDS18 Collect blood/blood components for transfusion
- BDS19 Prepare to administer transfusion of blood/blood products to patients
- BDS20 Administer a transfusion of blood/blood products

Origin
This workforce competence has been developed by the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA), in collaboration with Skills for Health. The NPSA is currently working towards ensuring that the competencies receive endorsement from Skills for Health and are displayed on their website in 2007.
Glossary

This section provides explanations and definitions of the terms used in this workforce competence. In competences it is quite common to find words or phrases used which you will be familiar with but which, in the detail of the competence, may be used in a very particular way.

Patient documentation denotes the term used for written patient identification information that is taken to the fridge when blood is collected (i.e. a blood collection slip or prescription).

Requests for transfusion requests for transfusion of blood/blood products must be supported by a clearly legible written prescription.

Scope

This section provides guidance on possible areas to be covered in this workforce competence.

Patient

May include:

a) neonates and infants
b) children and young people
c) adults
d) older people

Minimum data set

Includes the patient’s:

a) full name
b) date of birth
c) gender
d) hospital number or other patient identification number (i.e. hospital or NHS number)

Recording documentation

May include:

a) paper based
b) electronic

Appropriate member of staff

May include:

a) a member of the care team
b) a porter
Performance Criteria

You need to:

1. respond to requests for a patient to receive a transfusion of blood/blood products
2. confirm that the required blood/blood product for transfusion is ready for collection
3. identify the patient to receive the transfusion by full name and date of birth by asking open questions and verifying these details against the patient’s wristband
4. apply local procedures for identifying unconscious patients, neonates or those who are unable to verbally confirm their identity
5. complete the patient documentation for blood transfusion accurately and legibly, ensuring it clearly identifies:
   - the minimum data set for the correct patient
   - your signature and contact details
6. identify an appropriate member of staff to collect the blood/blood products from the storage area
7. check the patient documentation for blood transfusion clearly and precisely with the member of staff allocated to collect it
8. confirm the member of staff fully understands:
   - what blood/blood product to collect
   - where to collect it from
   - the procedure to be carried out at the collection point
9. respond promptly to the delivery of the collected blood/blood products
10. check the details on the delivered blood/blood components match those on the patient documentation with the member of staff delivering the product
11. sign and date paper based patient documentation where this is being used
Knowledge and understanding

You need to apply:

K1. A working knowledge of the importance of promptly responding to requests for a patient to receive a transfusion of blood/blood products

K2. A working knowledge of the importance of confirming that the required blood/blood product for transfusion is ready for collection before arranging for it to be collected

K3. An in-depth understanding of the importance of correctly identifying the patient to receive the transfusion

K4. A working knowledge of the local procedures for identifying unconscious patients, neonates or those who are unable to verbally confirm their identity

K5. A working knowledge of the importance of completing the patient documentation for blood transfusion accurately and legibly

K6. A working knowledge of the minimum data set required to enable correct patient/product identification

K7. A working knowledge of the importance of checking the patient documentation for blood transfusion clearly and precisely with the member of staff allocated to collect it

K8. A working knowledge of the importance of confirming the member of staff fully understands:
   a) what blood/blood product to collect
   b) where to collect it from
   c) the procedure to be carried out at the collection point

K9. A working knowledge of the importance of providing for clear written information to be taken to the fridge when carrying out checks that the correct blood and/or other blood product has been selected

K10. An in-depth understanding of the importance of responding promptly to the delivery of the collected blood/blood products

K11. An in-depth understanding of the importance of checking that the details on the delivered blood/blood products match those on the patient documentation with the member of staff delivering the product

K12. A working knowledge of the reasons for signing and dating paper based patient documentation where this is being used

K13. A working knowledge of the risks associated with ordering blood over the telephone