

Applies to former Saskatoon Health Region area

Red Cell Transfusion Best Practice Recommendations - Clinical Decision Algorithm

Purpose

This document provides a diagrammatic depiction for screening red blood cell orders on stable, non-bleeding, hospitalized adults by the staff in the Transfusion Medicine Laboratory for alignment with the transfusion best practice recommendations¹²³⁴⁵.

Policy

- Orders that are in alignment with the transfusion best practice recommendations will be filled without question.
- If necessary to determine alignment, laboratory staff will contact the care unit involved to obtain missing information.
- Orders that are outside of the recommendations shall be cleared with the Transfusion Medicine Physician on call.

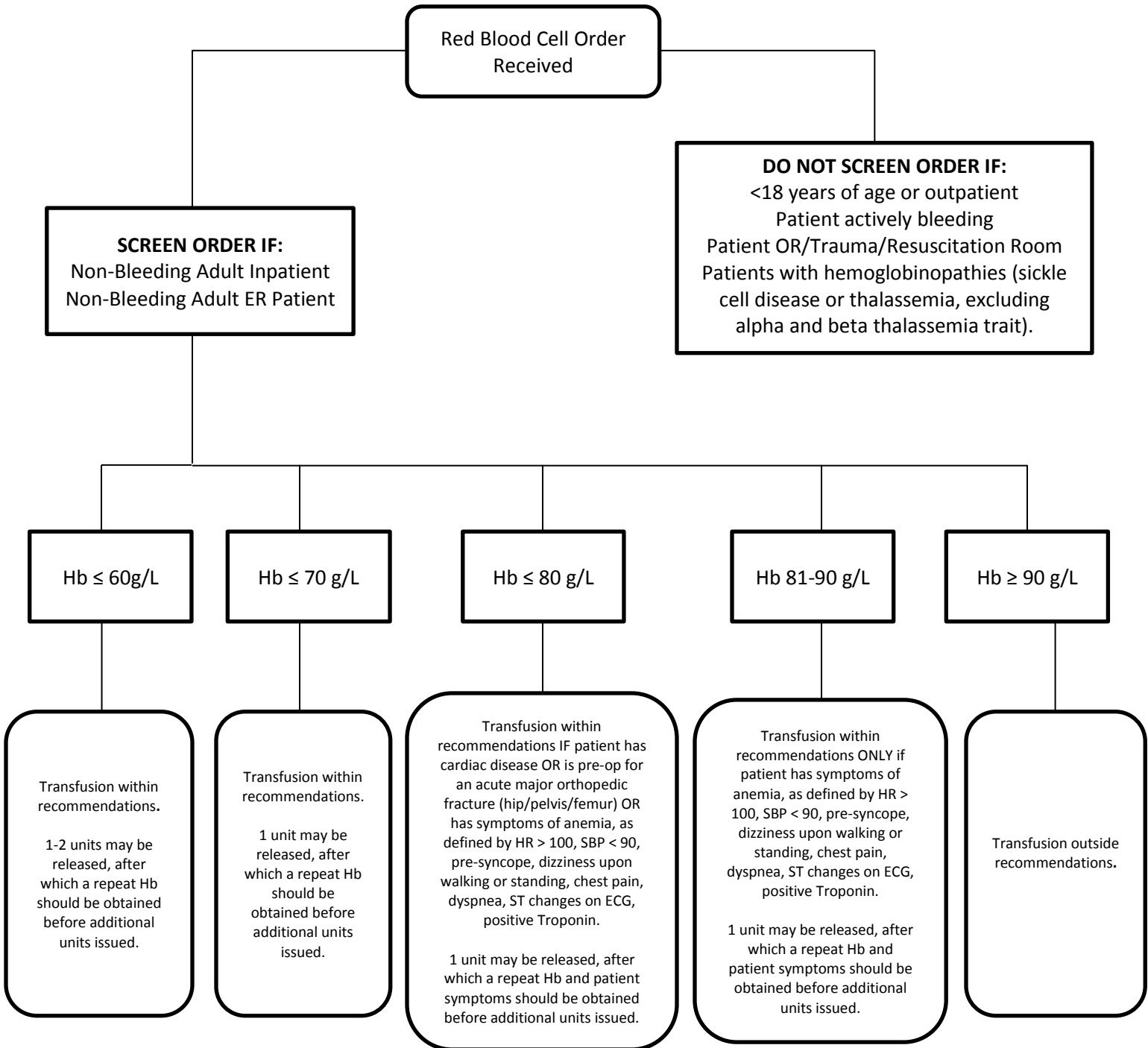
Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply:

Term, abbreviation, acronym, etc.	Definition
Decision Algorithm	A visual tool outlining the steps involved in an 'if/then' decision process
ER	Emergency Room
Hb	Hemoglobin
HR	Heart Rate
OR	Operating Room
Process Flow	A method of visually documenting the stages involved in performing a certain procedure. Examples include decision algorithm, value stream map, process flow chart or table.
Process Flow Chart or Table	A visual representation of the steps in a process ⁶ . In a chart, standard symbols with defined actions are used.
RBC	Red Blood Cells.
Shall	Indicates the action is mandatory.
SBP	Systolic Blood Pressure.

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References

- ¹Callum, JL et al; Canadian Blood Services; Bloody Easy 4; Blood Transfusions, Blood Alternatives and Transfusion Reactions; A Guide to Transfusion Medicine 4th Edition; 2016.
- ² 2011 Update to The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists Blood Conservation Clinical Practice Guidelines. Ann Thorac Surg 2011; 91:944-982.
- ³Carson JL et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines From the AABB: Red Blood Cell Transfusion Thresholds and Storage. JAMA 2016; 316(19); 2025-2035.
- ⁴ NAC Companion Document to: “Red Blood Cell Transfusion: A Clinical Practice Guideline from the AABB” 2014. www.nacblood.ca
- ⁵ Choosing Wisely Canada www.choosingwiselycanada.org . Lists from the Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine, the Canadian Hematology Society, the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine, and the Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians.