Red Cell Screening Process

Request for Red Cells Received

Adult In-Patient
Adult Emergency Patient

Review queries on the Patient inquiry

Is the patient bleeding?

Yes
Dispense as requested

No

Complete 2 25 Form C.
What is the Hgb result and date and time of collection?
Is this request for a first or second or more units?

Was the Hgb performed in the last 24 hours?
Was a post-transfusion Hgb performed if this is the second or more units requested?

Yes

No

Hgb performed

Request that the patient’s physician order a Hgb
Ordering physician can consult the TM physician if required.

Hgb less than or equal to 70 g/L

Does the patient have a history of cardiovascular disease or show signs of it (e.g. positive troponin level)?

No

Yes

Inform nursing staff: “The red cell request for transfusion is outside recommendations. Ordering physician should be contacted to arrange consultation with Dr. ____ (pathologist/TM physician). They can be reached at ‘phone number”

Hgb 71-80 g/L

Is the patient experiencing symptoms of anemia/impaired tissue oxygenation such as elevated heart rate, dizziness or fainting or cardiac symptoms like shortness of breath or chest pain?

No

Yes

Dispense one unit of red cells.
Patient care unit should re-check Hgb and patient symptoms before additional units are issued.

If more than one unit is tagged at the same time, attach a blank 2 25 Form C to additional units. Form must be completed prior to issuing subsequent units.

Hgb 81-90 g/L

Hgb > 90g/L