

Advice for day case patients following a blood transfusion

An information guide



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Most blood transfusions take place without problems but having a blood transfusion carries with it a very small risk of developing side effects. These may develop within several hours, or, in some cases, may happen days or weeks later.

These side effects are often mild, but it is still important to report any unusual or unexpected symptoms to a doctor or nurse (or midwife if your transfusion was related to pregnancy/ childbirth).

Please contact the hospital for advice if you experience any of the following after having a blood transfusion:

- A high temperature – feeling feverish, hot and clammy
- Shivering or 'cold chills'
- Breathing problems
- Extreme tiredness
- Passing blood in your urine
- Passing much less, or very dark, urine
- Itchy skin rash
- Pain in the lower back (loin pain)
- Unexpected or unexplained bruising
- Jaundice (yellow colour of the white of your eyes or your skin)

When contacting the hospital for advice, please inform the hospital staff that you have recently had a blood transfusion.

This section to be completed by staff on discharge. Explain to the patient how to obtain assistance in the event of a problem (both 'in hours' and 'out of hours'), and then give the leaflet to the patient: before they leave the ward/clinic.

Ward/department:

.....

Contact telephone number(s):

Daytime

.....

Night time/weekends

.....

Date and time of last transfusion

.....

If you are unable to make contact with the hospital where you had your transfusion, then please contact your GP as soon as possible.

In the rare event of an emergency (life threatening problems, for example difficulty with breathing), call 999 for an ambulance and bring this leaflet into hospital with you.

If you would like further information or advice about this, or other aspects of blood transfusion, please discuss this with your hospital doctor, nurse or midwife.

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If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

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Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

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☎ : 0161 627 8770

@ : interpretation@pat.nhs.uk

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For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897


For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service

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