

Preface

The purpose of this **4th edition** of these blood utilization guidelines is:

1. To provide providers and health care professionals with a comprehensive overview of evidence-based practices for the appropriate use of blood and blood components in adult patients and promote optimal transfusion therapy.
2. To summarize findings from recent randomized controlled trials and current references to support these practices.
3. To provide a resource for hospital transfusion or quality improvement committees for indications for local transfusion order sets and/or audit criteria for review of blood ordering practices.

The physicians and staff of Versiti Medical Science Institute (MSI) have compiled these guidelines after critical review of the cited references. The goal is to foster adoption of best practice for usage of blood and blood component at each institution. These guidelines should be reviewed by each institution's medical staff in collaboration with their transfusion service medical director. Modifications may be needed based on the particular patient mix and/or culture of the organization. Studies in transfusion therapy continue and therefore some recommendations in this guideline may be superseded by results from ongoing clinical trials.

These adult guidelines are recommendations only. The decision to transfuse or not to transfuse should be made by the patient's physician only after a careful assessment of the patient's clinical condition and laboratory parameters. Documentation for transfusion of all blood, blood components, and factor concentrates should include the indication(s) for the transfusion or infusion; this is especially important if the circumstances/indication for the transfusion falls outside established best practice.

Publication History:

Versions prior to 2006 included with hospital onboarding documents

December 2007	1 st Edition
April 2011	2 nd Edition, addendum April 2013
November 2015	3 rd Edition
December 2020	4 th Edition