

# WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE TRANSFUSION

## BEFORE TRANSFUSION

### The doctor will:

- Speak to you about your need for a blood component transfusion
- Discuss the risks, benefits and transfusion options with you
- Give you some written information about blood component transfusions
- Ask you to sign a consent for transfusion form.



You will have blood samples taken

### We will identify you by:



- Asking you to state your name and date of birth in full
- Checking these facts against your nameband and the specimen request form.

## JUST BEFORE AND DURING TRANSFUSION

If you need to, please use the toilet before the transfusion commences.



### Nursing staff will check:

- Your identification
- Blood component details.



Your pulse, temperature and blood pressure will be checked before and during the transfusion.



### During the transfusion:

- Staff will keep a close watch on you
- You may eat and drink
- Move your arm as little as possible (the arm that has the transfusion running through it)
- A transfusion may involve more than one bag of blood.



### Alert your nurse immediately if:

- You feel unwell
- You have any strange rashes
- You feel pain.



## AFTER TRANSFUSION

Your pulse, temperature and blood pressure will be checked.



A doctor may be asked to check on you.

A blood sample may be taken the morning after the transfusion to check that your blood counts have improved.

