

Advice for patients after a blood transfusion (in-patient) (page 1 of 2)

Stick patient label here

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

The side effects are usually mild but it is very important that you tell your doctor, nurse or midwife, if you experience any of the following after your blood transfusion.

What are the signs and symptoms?

- a high temperature – feeling feverish, hot and clammy
- shivering or ‘cold chills’
- breathing problems
- extreme tiredness
- blood in your urine
- passing much less, or very dark, urine
- itchy skin rash
- unexpected or unexplained bruising
- jaundice (yellow colour of the white of your eyes or your skin).

If you have left the hospital before the symptoms occur, please tell the contact below that you have recently had a blood transfusion.

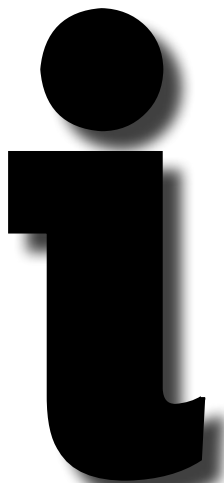
Contact details (to be completed by the hospital staff)

Where your transfusion took place:

Ward/Department:

Telephone number: day time,
 evenings and weekends.

If you are unable to make contact with the hospital, please contact your GP as soon as possible or call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help, whatever the time.



If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: customer-care@salisbury.nhs.uk

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk if you would like a reference list.

Advice for patients after a blood transfusion (in-patient) (2 of 2)



NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

In the rare event of an emergency (life threatening problems, for example difficulty with breathing), you must call 999 and ask for an ambulance.

Please note - new national rules say that anyone who has a blood transfusion cannot themselves be a blood donor in the future. Therefore please note that after this transfusion, you cannot donate blood. Further information is available at: www.blood.co.uk

