

DANGEROUS/UNACCEPTABLE ABBREVIATIONS - DO NOT USE

QD QOD U IU MS MSO4 MgSO4 Trailing Zero Lack of leading Zero

*****ALL PRN MEDICATIONS ORDERED MUST HAVE A REASON ******

Date Ordered **Time Ordered** **PHYSICIAN'S ORDER**

1. Admit date: _____ Surgery date: _____ Pre-admit testing date: _____

2. ADMIT/PATIENT STATUS ORDER

a. **ADMIT CAMPUS:** () Downtown () Lakeside

b. **ADMIT Location:** Med/Surg NICU CCU SICU NeuroICU BMT OBGYN PEDI TATU PCU

c. **INDICATE STATUS ORDER WITH A CHECKMARK:**

Admit to inpatient status -> Estimated length of stay _____

Place in outpatient status

Place in Observation status and begin observation services

Assign to Physician: _____ Service: _____

Diagnosis/Medical Necessity (Description/ICD code required): _____

Procedure(s) (Description/CPT code required): _____

If this is a combined case LIST SURGEON AND SERVICE LINE HERE: _____

3. **Drug Allergies:** _____

4. **Height** _____ **cm** **Weight** _____ **Kg**

5. **Xrays and other tests**

Chest xray (PA/LAT) EKG Other _____

6. **Labs**

Reminder: For diabetics only: Glucose Level, Bedside Frequency: Once on admission

Comment: goal glucose < 180 mg/dL, if > 180 notify anesthesia

MRSA and MSSA screening per protocol in Pre-admission Testing

Urine HCG (exceptions are previous hysterectomy or age >50 years with no menses for ≥ 2 years)

Type and Screen

Type and cross match __ units PRBC ON HOLD for OR (specify number of units)

Type __ Units FFP ON HOLD for OR (specify number of units)

__ Apheresis Platelets (equivalent to 5-6 pack of random donor platelets) ON HOLD for OR

Physician's Signature _____ Date & Time _____ Nurse's Signature _____ Date & Time _____

Physician's Printed Name _____ Nurse's Print Name _____ Date & Time _____

DO NOT USE FORM AFTER THE ORDERS HAVE BEEN SIGNED AND FAXED/SCANNED

TULANE HEALTH
SYSTEMS

Affix Patient ID Label Here

ESR Preoperative Order Set

Patient Name: _____

M.R.# _____



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6. Labs (continued)

- | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CBC with platelets/Diff | <input type="checkbox"/> CRP | <input type="checkbox"/> Free T3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Testosterone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic metabolic panel | <input type="checkbox"/> Transferrin | <input type="checkbox"/> Free T4 | <input type="checkbox"/> B-HCG Quant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive metabolic panel | <input type="checkbox"/> PTH | <input type="checkbox"/> Serum T3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urine toxicology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liver function profile | <input type="checkbox"/> PTH-rp | <input type="checkbox"/> Serum T4 | <input type="checkbox"/> UA/reflex culture (choose indication) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PT/INR | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin D 25 Hydroxy | <input type="checkbox"/> Prealbumin | <input type="checkbox"/> Urology patient <input type="checkbox"/> CVA tender |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PTT | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcitonin | <input type="checkbox"/> HgbA1c | <input type="checkbox"/> Dysuria <input type="checkbox"/> Urinary frequency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Platelet Function Assay | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium | <input type="checkbox"/> PSA | <input type="checkbox"/> Suprapubic pain <input type="checkbox"/> Fever |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potassium | <input type="checkbox"/> TSH | <input type="checkbox"/> AFP | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sed rate | | <input type="checkbox"/> CEA | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | |

7. Diet:

- ESR (Early Surgical Recovery) Patients** NPO After Midnight Except Medications and clear liquids; May have clear liquids up to arrival to the hospital (**Beverages and instructions to dispensed patient in Pre-admission testing unit per protocol**)
 Most patients will qualify, exclude patients if high aspiration risk e.g. bowel obstruction or non-functioning GI tract
- NON-ESR (Early Surgical Recovery) Patients** NPO Past MIDNIGHT Except meds only
 *** this only includes patients who do not qualify for ESR based on above recommendations***
- All patients:** NPO except meds after arrival to the hospital

8. Vitals per routine (including pulse ox)

9. Nursing Care in Outpatient Surgery:

- CHG Bath -> Comments: Cloths for pre-op scrub of surgical site on admission
- Hair removal -> Comments: Clip hair in area of surgical site in Outpatient Surgery room

10. IV fluids

- Lactated ringers solution 1000ml IV ON CALL**

11. VTE Prophylaxis:

- Apply Sequential Compression Device
- Administer in Outpatient Surgery** (select based on hospital guidelines)
(Do not administer in patients receiving epidural block, please verify with anesthesiologist)
 - HEPARIN SODIUM PORCINE 5000 UNIT SUBQ ON CALL**
 - HEPARIN SODIUM PORCINE 7500 UNIT SUBQ ON CALL (Consider if BMI ≥40kg/m²)**
 - Enoxaparin 40mg SUBQ ON CALL**
 - Other (Dispense as written) _____

Physician's Signature	Date & Time	Nurse's Signature	Date & Time
-----------------------	-------------	-------------------	-------------

Physician's Printed Name	Nurse's Print Name	Date & Time
--------------------------	--------------------	-------------

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12. Outpatient Surgery Medications

- Administer oral medications with small sip of water in Outpatient Surgery
- If the patient cannot tolerate pills by mouth: convert PO meds to liquid version if available
- Scopolamine** Transdermal patch 1.5mg (apply behind ear in Outpatient Surgery prior to surgery)
(Contraindicated in patients with narrow angle glaucoma, elevated intraocular pressure, & age >65 years)
- Acetaminophen** 1000mg PO x1 ON CALL (consider reduced or avoided dose with liver failure)
- Gabapentin** 600mg PO x1 ON CALL (For patients <60 years old/ serum Cr <1.5 mg/dl)
- Gabapentin** 300mg PO x1 ON CALL (For patients ≥60 & <70 years old / serum Cr ≥1.5 mg/dl)
- Gabapentin** 100mg PO X1 ON CALL (Consider in patients ≥70 years old)
- Celecoxib** 400mg PO x1 ON CALL (For patients <60 years old/ serum Cr <1.5 mg/dl)
- Celecoxib** 200mg PO x1 ON CALL (For patients ≥60 years old/ serum Cr ≥1.5 mg/dl)
- Methylnaltrexone** 12mg SUBQ ON CALL (Decrease dose if patient <60kg and/or Cr≥1.5mg/dl)
- Other** (Dispense as written)_____

13. Antibiotic Prophylaxis: (SEND ON CALL TO OR) Administer antibiotics pre-op x1 dose within 1 hour of incision (except vancomycin, ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin and fluconazole that are given between 60-120 minutes prior to incision)

******SEE FINAL PAGE OF ORDERSET FOR ANTIBIOTIC GUIDELINES******

- Other antibiotics (Dispense as written)_____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cefazolin 2 grams IV (weight < 120kg) on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Aztreonam 2 gram IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cefazolin 3 grams IV (weight ≥ 120kg) on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Ciprofloxacin 400mg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cefoxitin 2 grams IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Clindamycin 900mg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ampicillin 2 grams IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Gentamycin 5mg/kg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ampicillin/sulbactam 3 grams IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Gentamycin 80mg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ampicillin/sulbactam 1.5 grams (weight ≤ 80kg) IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Levofloxacin 500mg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piperacillin/tazobactam 3.375 gram IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Metronidazole 500mg IV on call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fluconazole 400mg IV on call | <input type="checkbox"/> Vancomycin 15mg/kg IV on call |

- Auto consult to pharmacy for dosing when IV Vancomycin or IV gentamycin ordered

Physician's Signature Date & Time Nurse's Signature Date & Time

Physician's Printed Name Nurse's Print Name Date & Time

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*****ALL PRN MEDICATIONS ORDERED MUST HAVE A REASON ******

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14. Regional Block

- Consult anesthesiology for post-operative pain management (Regional block)

15. Local Anesthetic (on CALL TO OR)

- Bupivacaine 0.25% vial ON CALL to OR
- Bupivacaine 0.25% with epinephrine 1:200,00 vial ON CALL to OR
- Bupivacaine 0.5% vial ON CALL to OR
- Bupivacaine 0.5% with epinephrine 1:200,00 vial ON CALL to OR
- Other** (Dispense as written) _____

16. Miscellaneous orders

- Belladonna and opium suppository x1 ON CALL to OR
- _____
- _____
- _____

Best person to contact if there are problem with these orders:

NAME: _____ Contact number _____

STOP: TO avoids delays make sure the following have occurred

- The physician has signed every page**
- You included a surgery date**
- You included ICD codes**
- You included CPT codes**
- History and Physical in chart (<30 days before surgery)**

Physician's Signature Date & Time Nurse's Signature Date & Time

Physician's Printed Name Nurse's Print Name Date & Time

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PRE-OPERATIVE ANTIBIOTIC REFERENCE --- NO ORDERS ON THIS PAGE

True drug allergy is based on the presence of a patient response with one or more of the following signs/symptoms: respiratory difficulty, hypotension, rash, or hives. In the absence of these findings, an antibiotic of the same classification may be used for surgical prophylaxis.	
Indication	Pre-op Antimicrobial & Dose
Abdominal: Esophageal, Bariatrics; Gastroduodenal; Biliary non infected; Gynecological: C-section [administer within 60 minutes prior to incision); <i>before</i> cord clamping]	Cefazolin 2 g (3g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: clindamycin 900mg IV + gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Abdominal: appendectomy, biliary infection, colorectal surgery of any type, whipple or small bowel	Colorectal prep: neomycin sulfate 1 g + erythromycin base 1g PO at 19, 18, & 9 hours prior to surgery (home therapy) + cefoxitin 2 g IV x 1 dose Allergy: metronidazole 500 mg IV + gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
General: any implanted foreign body; hernia repair; PEG tubes; Head & Neck: clean procedures; Plastic Surgery	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: clindamycin 900mg IV x 1 dose
Cardiac: coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) +/- valve implant, pacemaker & other implants	Cefazolin 2 g (3g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV + gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose MRSA concern: vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV + cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV + gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Cardiac: pacemaker, defibrillator, ventricular assist device, & other implanted device	Cefazolin 2 g (3g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: clindamycin 900mg IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Gynecological: all hysterectomy Synthetic pubovaginal sling	cefoxitin 2 g IV x 1 dose Allergy: Clindamycin 900 mg IV + gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Head & Neck Clean-contaminated procedures (oropharyngeal mucosa is compromised)	Ampicillin/sulbactam 3g (1.5g if less than 80kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: clindamycin 900 mg IV x 1
Neurosurgery: craniotomy, shunts, laminectomies, & spinal fusion; Thoracic: non-cardiac	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15 mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Orthopedic: internal fixation of fracture & joint replacement (hip or knee), any implanted foreign body	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy/MRSA concern: vancomycin 15mg/kg IV x 1 dose **complete infusion before tourniquet inflation** Gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose (if gram negative concern)
Urologic: TURP only, otherwise <i>**indicated only for patients with known bacteriuria**</i>	Cefazolin 2g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose If catheter in place: Ampicillin 2 grams IV q6h + Gentamicin 5 mg/kg IV once Allergy: clindamycin 900mg IV x 1 dose + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Urologic: transrectal biopsy	Gentamicin 80mg IV + Ciprofloxacin 400mg IV x1 cefoxitin 2g IV once
Urologic: Open/lap; cystoscopy with manipulation or upper tract instrumentation (lithotripsy, ureteroscopy)	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose Allergy: clindamycin 900mg IV + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Urologic: prosthetics, stents, penile prosthetics	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15mg/kg IV + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose
Vascular: amputation, arterial surgery, vascular access devices, implants, repair	Cefazolin 2 g (3 g if >120 kg) IV x 1 dose Allergy: vancomycin 15mg/kg IV + gentamicin 5mg/kg IV x 1 dose

DATE: _____ **SHORT STAY FORM**

History

Chief Complaint/Admit DX: _____

Present Illness: _____

Significant Findings: _____

Family Medical History: _____

Past Illness: _____

Past Operations: _____

Medications: _____

Allergies: _____

Social History: Alcohol Tobacco Other:
Mental History: Alert Disoriented Drowsy Lethargic Other
Immunization Record: (Pediatric): _____

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: T _____ P _____ R _____ BP _____
General: _____ HEENT: _____ Heart: Lungs: Abdomen: _____ Neurological: _____
Other Body Systems (specific to procedure): _____ Impression: _____
Plan: _____

PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE/TIME: _____

DISCHARGE SUMMARY:

Final Diagnosis: _____

Diet: _____ Regular _____ Soft _____ Liquid _____ Other: _____

Activities: _____

Condition of Pt on Discharge: _____ Ambulatory _____ Afebrile _____ Voiding _____ Vital Signs Stable

Medications: _____

Follow-up: _____

Additional Comments: _____

PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE/TIME: _____

PHYSICIAN'S Printed Name: _____

Tulane Medical Center
1415 Tulane Ave.
New Orleans, LA



SHORT STAY FORM

Patient Consent to Medical Treatment or Surgical Procedure and Acknowledgement of Informed Consent

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

9. **Risks of no treatment:** _____

10. **Acknowledgment, Authorization, and Consent**

- (a) **No Guarantees:** I understand that all information given me, and in particular, all estimates as to risks and benefits of this or alternate procedures are made in my physician's best professional judgment. Complications cannot always be accurately anticipated and therefore, there is and can be no guarantee either expressed or implied, as to the success of the medical treatment or surgical procedure.
- (b) **Particular Concerns:** I have had an opportunity to discuss with my physician those risks or other potential consequences of the medical treatment or surgical procedure that are of particular concern to me.
- (c) **Questions:** I have had an opportunity to ask my physician, and I have asked, any questions I may have about the information in this Consent Form and other questions I have about the proposed treatment or procedure and all such questions were answered satisfactorily.
- (d) **Authorized physician:** Physician (or physician group) responsible for treatment, procedure or therapy described in Item #2, is:

Printed Name: _____

(e) **Who will administer Anesthesia:** _____

- (f) Physicians other than the Authorized Physician (including but not limited to residents) will will not

be performing important tasks related to the surgery, under the supervision of the authorized physician, in accordance with the hospital's policies and the practitioner(s)' or resident(s)' availability and competence level. Important surgical tasks include: opening and closing, dissecting tissue, removing tissue, harvesting grafts, transplanting tissue, administering anesthesia, implanting devices and placing invasive lines. I am aware that the authorized physician may not be physically present in the same operating room for some or all of the surgical tasks performed by the resident(s).

- (g) **PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I have provided and explained the information contained in this Consent Form, including any attachments, and answered all questions of the patient or the patient's representative concerning the medical treatment, therapy or surgical procedure to be performed.

Signature of Physician: _____ **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____

Printed Name of Physician: _____

PATIENT'S CONSENT: I, the patient or the patient's representative, hereby authorize and direct the designated physician, together with associates, assistants, residents or qualified medical practitioners of my physician's choice, to administer or perform the medical treatment or surgical procedure described in Item #2 of this Consent Form. I also consent to any additional procedures or services as they may deem necessary or reasonable, including the administration of general or regional anesthesia, x-rays or other radiological services, laboratory services, and the disposal of tissue removed during a diagnostic or surgical procedure.

I have read and understand all information set forth in this document, including any attachments, and all blanks were filled in prior to my signing. This authorization for and consent to medical or surgical procedure is and shall remain valid until revoked.

I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to ask my physician any questions I have about the contemplated medical treatment or surgical procedure described in Item #2 of this Consent Form, including risks and alternatives, and acknowledge that my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature of Patient or Person Date Time Signature of Witness Date Time
Authorized to Consent

Relationship to Patient (if signature is not patient's)

Printed Name of Witness

Tulane Medical Center



Consent Medical Treatment or Surgical Procedure

Patient Consent to Medical Treatment or Surgical Procedure and Acknowledgement of Informed Consent

Transfusion of Blood and Blood Components - page 1 of 3

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

TO THE PATIENT: Your physician has recommended that you consider medical treatment/surgery. Louisiana law requires your physician to tell you (1) the nature of your condition; (2) the general nature of the medical treatment/surgery; (3) the risks of the proposed treatment/surgery, as defined by the Louisiana Medical Disclosure Panel or as determined by your doctor; (4) reasonable therapeutic alternatives and material risks associated with such alternatives; and (5) risks of no treatment.

You have the right, as a patient, to be informed about your condition and the recommended surgical, medical or diagnostic procedure to be used so that you make the decision whether or not to undergo the procedure after knowing the risks and hazards involved. Your physician wants you to be as informed as possible. Please read each page of this form carefully. Ask about anything you do not understand and your physician will be pleased to explain.

1. **Patient Name:** _____

2. **Treatment/Procedure:** Transfusion of Blood and Blood Components _____

3. **Anesthesia to be used:** **GENERAL:** _____ **OTHER:** _____

4. **Description of the treatment/procedure:** _____

5. **Indications for treatment/procedure:** _____

6. **Anticipated Benefits of the Treatment/Procedure:** _____

7. **Material Risks of Treatment/Procedure:**

All medical or surgical treatment involves risks. Listed here and on the attached pages that relate to your specific treatment/procedure are risks associated with this treatment/procedure and anesthesia, including the likelihood of the risks, based on the available clinical evidence, as informed by the responsible physician's clinical judgment. Material risks could include risks with a high degree of likelihood but a low degree of severity, as well as those with a very low degree of likelihood but high degree of severity that we believe a reasonable person in your (the patient's) position would likely consider significant when deciding whether to have or forego the proposed therapy. Please ask your physician if you would like additional information regarding these risks.

a) Risks generally associated with any surgical treatment/procedure, including anesthesia are: **death, brain damage, disfiguring scars, quadriplegia (paralysis from neck down), paraplegia (paralysis from the waist down), the loss or loss of function of any organ or limb, infection, bleeding, and pain.**

b) Risks listed for your procedure by the Louisiana Medical Disclosure Panel: (1) Fever, (2) Transfusion reaction which may include kidney failure or anemia, (3) Heart failure, (4) Hepatitis, (5) AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), (6) Other infections.

_____ Risks determined by your physician: _____

c) Additional risks (if any) particular to the patient because of a complicating medical condition: _____

8. **Treatment alternatives including attendant risks and benefits:** _____

**Patient Consent to Medical Treatment or Surgical Procedure
and Acknowledgement of Informed Consent**

Transfusion of Blood and Blood Components - page 2 of 3

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

9. **Risks of no treatment:** _____

10. **Acknowledgment, Authorization, and Consent**

- (a) **No Guarantees:** I understand that all information given me, and in particular, all estimates as to risks and benefits of this or alternate procedures are made in my physician's best professional judgment. Complications cannot always be accurately anticipated and therefore, there is and can be no guarantee either expressed or implied, as to the success of the medical treatment or surgical procedure.
- (b) **Particular Concerns:** I have had an opportunity to discuss with my physician those risks or other potential consequences of the medical treatment or surgical procedure that are of particular concern to me.
- (c) **Questions:** I have had an opportunity to ask my physician, and I have asked, any questions I may have about the information in this Consent Form and other questions I have about the proposed treatment or procedure and all such questions were answered satisfactorily.
- (d) **Authorized physician:** Physician (or physician group) responsible for treatment, procedure or therapy described in Item #2, is:

Printed Name: _____

(e) **Who will administer Anesthesia:** _____

(f) Physicians other than the Authorized Physician (including but not limited to residents) will will not be performing important tasks related to the surgery, under the supervision of the authorized physician, in accordance with the hospital's policies and the practitioner(s)' or resident(s)' availability and competence level. Important surgical tasks include: opening and closing, dissecting tissue, removing tissue, harvesting grafts, transplanting tissue, administering anesthesia, implanting devices and placing invasive lines. I am aware that the authorized physician may not be physically present in the same operating room for some or all of the surgical tasks performed by the resident(s).

(g) **PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I have provided and explained the information contained in this Consent Form, including any attachments, and answered all questions of the patient or the patient's representative concerning the medical treatment, therapy or surgical procedure to be performed.

Signature of Physician: _____ **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____

Printed Name of Physician: _____

PATIENT'S CONSENT: I, the patient or the patient's representative, hereby authorize and direct the designated physician, together with associates, assistants, residents or qualified medical practitioners of my physician's choice, to administer or perform the medical treatment or surgical procedure described in Item #2 of this Consent Form. I also consent to any additional procedures or services as they may deem necessary or reasonable, including the administration of general or regional anesthesia, x-rays or other radiological services, laboratory services, and the disposal of tissue removed during a diagnostic or surgical procedure.

I have read and understand all information set forth in this document, including any attachments, and all blanks were filled in prior to my signing. This authorization for and consent to medical or surgical procedure is and shall remain valid until revoked.

I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to ask my physician any questions I have about the contemplated medical treatment or surgical procedure described in Item #2 of this Consent Form, including risks and alternatives, and acknowledge that my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature of Patient or Person
Authorized to Consent

Date Time

Signature of Witness

Date Time

Relationship to Patient (if signature is not patient's)

Printed Name of Witness

**Patient Consent to Medical Treatment or Surgical Procedure
and Acknowledgement of Informed Consent**

Transfusion of Blood and Blood Components - page 3 of 3

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Informed Consent- Transfusion of Blood and Blood Components

Patient Instruction sheet- Not part of the medical record

WHAT IS A BLOOD TRANSFUSION

You may need to receive blood in order to stabilize your condition or to save your life. The type of transfusion and amount of blood that is given to you is a decision your physician will make based on your individual needs. Blood transfusions are given to replace the part of the blood that is missing. If you are anemic, your red blood cell level is lower than the level needed to carry adequate oxygen to the cells in your body. The transfusion given to correct anemia contains red blood cells. If you have a low platelet count and are at risk for bleeding, the component given to you is a platelet concentrate. Plasma or Cryoprecipitate are given to manage clotting problems.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS

Most transfusions proceed without incident. Occasionally, problems arise. You may feel a cold sensation, due to the cool temperature of the blood. Sometimes, fever, chills and hives can occur, which are usually not significant. Rarely, more serious problems, such as infection, shortness of breath, back or chest pain, nausea, vomiting, fainting, or confusion may occur. If you have any of these symptoms during or after the transfusion, immediately call your Nurse or Doctor for assistance. If you have bleeding from the infusion site, you or your Nurse should apply firm pressure directly to the area until the bleeding stops.

Delayed reactions may occur days to weeks after a transfusion. Any changes in your general health such as unusual tiredness, change in appetite, unplanned weight loss, kidney failure, dark urine, yellowing eyes or skin (jaundice), swollen glands or heavy sweating at night should be immediately reported to your Doctor.