

## Community Paramedic In-home Transfusion Criteria & Information

Community Paramedic Program accepts referrals for medically fragile people living in the community within Calgary city limits that require timely access to in-home blood transfusions (RBC, platelets and albumin) to improve health outcomes and remain out of hospital.

### To be considered eligible for this service:

- Your patient must have received previous transfusion(s) without serious complications;
  - a) The patient must have received at least two (2) transfusions within the previous 120 days without serious complications; or
  - b) More than four (4) transfusions within the previous year without serious complications; or
  - c) At the discretion of Transfusion Medicine physician lead.
- Your patient must be able to tolerate infusion rates between 90 – 120 minutes per unit of RBC
- The order must not exceed 2 units of RBCs and 1 dose of platelets
- The referral must be received at least 24 hours prior to the requested transfusion date
- CBC and type & screen, if applicable must be completed and interpreted within 96 hours of the requested transfusion date

**NOTE: if your patient requires re-occurring transfusions, the requesting physician must submit a new referral for each transfusion request after reviewing a CBC drawn within 2 weeks.**

**Please confirm your meets at least one of the following criteria at the time of the referral or speak directly with the patient coordinator to review the circumstances around your patient:**

- Patient has a mental health problem such as agoraphobia, debilitating anxiety, or psychiatric condition that prevents them from leaving their residence
- Patient has dementia or brain injury that would present as a safety risk travelling to a facility
- Patient suffers from a medical condition such that a trip of an hour or more outside of the home would compromise the patient's health
- Patient has high oxygen requirements that cannot be safely met by the use of portable oxygen

NOTE: All transfusion referrals, are subject to review by AHS Calgary Zone Transfusion Medicine

**Please call 1-855-491-5868 and speak with the patient coordinator if you have any questions.**