Change Summary for Transfusion of Blood Components and Products Policy and Procedure (Revisions Effective January 30th, 2017)

The AHS Policy and Procedures Revisions Advisory Group (PPRAG) has completed review and revision of the policy document *Transfusion of Blood Components and Products* (PS-59), and the procedures *Transfusion of Blood Components and Products – Adult Acute* (PS-59-01) and *Transfusion of Blood Components and Products - Pediatric/Neonate Acute* (PS-59-02).

The advisory group consisted of thirty-three (33) members, including a Policy consultant, and the sponsors. The membership included personnel from both Covenant and AHS, and included nursing managers, clinical nursing educators, clinical practice leads, clinical coordinators and transfusion safety coordinators. All five (5) zones were represented. The representatives were from a variety of clinical areas, including; medicine, surgery, medical outpatients, pediatrics, intensive care (adult and neonate), and home infusion.

The following is a summary of the changes that have been made to the previous versions.

**Policy Changes:**

**Section 1: Informed consent**

1.1 Language edited to align with Consent Policy and Procedure

**Section 2: Competency**

2.1 *Health care providers* changed to *health care professionals* as this is more accurate description of the individuals performing transfusion

**Section 3: Collection of Pre-transfusion Specimen(s)**

3.4 and 3.5 The components of a “transfusion order” edited for clarity.

3.6 Definitions now included for *Unique Identifier* and *TSIN* in appendix. Documentation of witness also added

**Section 4: Obtaining Blood Components and Products**

4.4 and 4.6 added for additional clarity

**Section 5: Verifying Blood Components or Products and Patient**

This section was added to align with procedure. Policy elements included in procedure were removed and added to this section.

**Section 6: Administration and Monitoring of Blood Components and Products**

Exceptions included where relevant for patients in establish home infusion programs
6.3 The additional criteria of transfusion of component “not initiated within 60 minutes...” added for component return to transfusion service

6.6 A note was added to provide additional information regarding medication administration

Section 7: Reporting Adverse Reactions

Minor wording changes for clarity

Section 8: Documentation

Minor wording changes for clarity

Section 9: Patient Notification

Wording revised from patient to in-patient as per CSA Z902.

Procedure Changes:

Due to the very limited number of differences between the Adult and Pediatric/Neonate procedures, the two documents were amalgamated into a single procedure. Necessary information to cover the differences was added to the relevant sections.

Title/Objectives changed – inclusive of all ages

Applicability:

Exceptions added which include EMS (have their own procedure now) and home infusion program (procedure being drafted)

Section 1: Informed consent

1.1 Language edited to align with Consent Policy and Procedure

Section 2: Equipment

2.5 primary concentrations changed to mg/mL rather than ratios (Safer Practice Notice)

Section 3: Collection of Pre-transfusion Specimen

Minor wording changes for clarity, and;

3.1 Note added for clarity regarding preferred witness to collection

3.5 Additional information added to assist in banding of “fragile” patients. Photos added for additional clarity.
Section 4: Prior to Transfusion

Minor wording changes and information relevant to pediatric/neonate added

Section 5: Obtain Blood Component or Product

Broken into 2 sections as this section covered 2 key activities; obtaining and verifying blood components and products.

5.1 Exceptions added to reflect current practice

Section 6: Verify Blood Component or Product and Patient

New section added. Contains material previously in section 5. Policy elements removed and added to Policy document.

The information from Section 5 was re-written and re-organized for clarity.

Section 7: Administration and Monitoring of Transfusion

7.1 Reference to new asset included which was developed to help define roles and responsibilities

7.7 Additional information added around starting transfusions slow

7.8 Monitoring table used in other TM assets (monographs) included to provide information for monitoring of both Adult and Pediatric/neonate transfusions.

7.9 Information regarding when to change administration sets added.

Section 8: Adverse Reactions

Minor wording changes for clarity

Section 9: Post Transfusion

Minor wording changes for clarity

Section 10: Documentation

Minor wording changes for clarity