

Platelets use in Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

Guideline Responsibilities and Authorisation

Department Responsible for Guideline	NICU
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Target Audience	Nurses, registrar, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, consultant
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Guideline Review History

Version	Updated by	Date Updated	Summary of Changes
2	Joyce Mok	Sept 2015	3 yearly review
3	Joyce Mok	Sept 2018	3 yearly review

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1 Overview

1.1 Purpose

To outline the guideline for the use of platelets in neonates

1.2 Scope

Waikato DHB staff working in NICU

1.3 Patient / client group

Neonates and infants in NICU

1.4 Exceptions / contraindications

Parental/cultural/religious reasons

1.5 Indications

Thrombocytopenia (actual level is dependent upon clinical situation)

2 Clinical Management

2.1 Guideline

- Dose:** Usually 10ml/kg (range 10-20 ml/kg depending on pathology and platelet count)
- Route:** Intravenous 20-40 minutes. UAC only after consultation with NICU consultant
- Filter:** A standard blood giving set is required, bypass or remove baby's IV filter before administration.
- ABO:** The Blood Bank will normally provide Platelet Concentrates that are ABO identical to the recipient or are ABO compatible, but it is not a strict requirement for platelet concentrates to be ABO compatible

Recipient	Donor
A	A, O
B	B, O
AB	AB, A, B, O
O	O

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- Rhesus (RhD):** Rh (D) positive patients can receive Rh (D) negative and Rh (D) positive platelets.
Rh (D) negative patients should receive Rh (D) negative platelets.
- Consent:** Required.
- Flush:** Use Sodium chloride 0.9% for flushes
- Do not:** Do not add medication to platelet concentrates
Do not use 5% Dextrose solutions and hypotonic sodium solutions (may cause haemolysis)
- Monitoring:** According to NICU nursing and medical procedures for blood transfusion
- Storage:** This product is stored at 20-24°C (room temperature) with constant agitation (in Blood Bank).
Transfuse as soon as possible. Return to Blood Bank if not immediately used.
Never store in a fridge.

3 Evidence base

3.1 References

- Waikato DHB Blood Resources (2014). *How to administer Platelets - Quick Guide*. Retrieved on September 3, 2018 from <https://clinicaldata.nzblood.co.nz/resourcefolder/platelets.php?dhbid=6>
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion & Australian College of Nursing (2018). Guidelines for the administration of blood products. Retrieved on September 19, 2018 from https://anzsbt.org.au/data/ANZSBT_Guidelines_Administration_Blood_Products_3rdEd_Jan_2018.pdf
- New Zealand Blood Services (2016). Transfusion medicine handbook: A guide to the clinical use of blood components, blood products and blood transfusion procedures in New Zealand, 3rd ed. Retrieved on September 20, 2018 from <https://www.nzblood.co.nz/assets/Transfusion-Medicine/PDFs/Transfusion-Medicine-Handbook-2016.pdf>

3.2 Associated Waikato DHB Documents

- Waikato DHB NICU Medical Procedure: [Blood Transfusions to Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit](#) procedure (1645)
- Waikato DHB NICU Nursing Procedure: [Blood Transfusions by Aliquots or Infusion - Nursing Management in NICU](#) procedure (4822)

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