

Glossary of Terms and Worksheet for Personal Choice of Blood Products and Procedures

For religious, cultural, or personal reasons, some patients do not want blood to be removed from the body and stored, nor for donor blood to be used for transfusion. Some patients do not accept whole blood components or any process that involves blood storage

This Personal Choice Worksheet can be used to record your personal blood product and procedure choices.

Whole Blood Components	
Blood carries oxygen and nutrients to the lungs and body tissues. Whole blood is made up of four main components:	
Plasma (FFP)	Accept Refuse
Red Blood Cells	Accept Refuse
White Blood Cells	Accept Refuse
Platelets	Accept Refuse

Fractions	
ALBUMIN Albumin is a protein made by the liver and flows in the plasma. Albumin is sometimes used to replace liquid when bleeding occurs, as in severe injuries or burns.	Accept Refuse
IMMUNE GLOBULINS Immune Globulins, also called antibodies, are proteins that flow in the plasma. These proteins are important because they fight viruses and bacteria in the body. Sometimes these antibodies are used in medicines that fight disease.	Accept Refuse
CLOTTING FACTORS Clotting factors are proteins that flow in the plasma and help blood to make clots that stop bleeding. Some patients who tend to bleed more easily are given special clotting factors. <i>Types of Clotting Factors: Cryoprecipitate, Fibrinogen</i>	Accept Refuse

Medications To Help Your Body Make More Red Blood Cells	
ERYTHROPOIETIN (with Albumin) Erythropoietin is an injected medicine to help a patient's own bone marrow produce more red blood cells. <i>Also called: Recombinant Erythropoietin, EPO, Hematopoietin, erythropoietin-stimulating agent, ESA</i>	Accept Refuse
ERYTHROPOIETIN (Without Albumin) Erythropoietin is an injected medicine to help a patient's own bone marrow produce more red blood cells. <i>Also called: Recombinant Erythropoietin, EPO, Hematopoietin, erythropoietin-stimulating agent, ESA</i>	Accept Refuse

Medical Procedures That Use Your Own Blood	
APHERESIS Apheresis is a treatment for certain diseases when a patient's antibodies are attacking his or her own immune system. A machine removes the bad plasma and replaces it with a good plasma substitute. <i>Also called: Plasma exchange, plasmapheresis</i> <i>Question to ask your doctor: Is the replacement plasma man-made or from another person?</i>	Accept Refuse
AUTO-TRANSFUSION Blood is drawn from the surgical site into a continuous flow system and is then washed and filtered and returned into the patient. <i>Other names: Cell Saver, Cell Salvage, Salvaged autologous blood</i>	Accept Refuse
DIALYSIS Dialysis uses a machine to act as an organ. Blood flows through the machine in a closed system and filters and cleans it before returning it to the patient. <i>Other names: renal dialysis, hemodialysis</i>	Accept Refuse
EPIDURAL BLOOD PATCH An epidural blood patch stops spinal fluid leakage. A small amount of a patient's own blood is injected into the tissue around the spinal cord. The clotting factors in the blood will help to seal the leak.	Accept Refuse
HEART AND LUNG MACHINE The heart and lung machine keeps the patient's blood moving during certain surgeries. Blood is directed into a machine where it picks up oxygen and is sent back into the patient. The flow of blood is in a closed system and is primed with a non-blood fluid.	Accept Refuse
HEMODILUTION Hemodilution is a process that helps to reduce blood loss during surgery. The patient's blood is collected into a closed system bag and is replaced with a non-blood fluid. After surgery, the patient's own blood is returned to his or her body.	Accept Refuse
PLATELET GEL Platelet gel is made from a patient's own blood and is used to seal wounds and lessen bleeding. A small amount of blood is collected and spun down to remove the platelets and white cells. This concentrate of platelets and white cells is then put on surgical sites to stop bleeding. <i>Also called: Autologous Platelet Gel</i>	Accept Refuse