

## Kittitas County Prehospital EMS Protocols

**SUBJECT: BLOOD PRODUCT ADMINISTRATION (Initiation/Administration/Maintenance)**

### Purpose:

To ensure the safe delivery of **Packed Red Blood Cells (PRBC / Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP))** for prehospital patients meeting criteria for transfusion. No blood products are carried by Kittitas County ambulance services. Blood products may be acquired through Kittitas Valley Healthcare or air transport service.

### Procedure:

1. Consider blood product administration for patients with signs and symptoms of hemodynamic instability, including but not limited to SBP < 90, diaphoresis, delayed capillary refill, tachypnea, altered mental status or suspicion of impending hemorrhagic shock.
2. AND one of the following:
  - a. Blunt or penetrating trauma to the torso.
  - b. Obvious massive external blood loss from any site.
  - c. Patients requiring aggressive volume resuscitation due to hemorrhage or suspected hemorrhage.
3. **Administration Procedure**
  - a. Obtain pre-administration vital signs (BP, pulse, respirations, and temperature).
  - b. Confirm blood product unit number, blood type, Rh factor and expiration date.
  - c. If emergency release / uncross matched blood product -
    - i. **Universal Donor / Females – O- (carried by ALNW)**
    - ii. **Males – O+ (if available)**
  - d. Prior to infusing the initial unit of PRBC / FFP, prime the blood administration tubing with normal saline.

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- e. No medication should be administered through the same line as blood products at any time.
  - i. If only one line is available and medication is required, stop transfusion, clear line with **Isotonic Crystalloid** and or flush port with minimum of 10cc **Isotonic Crystalloid**, give medication, flush line, and restart transfusion.
- f. Specific attention should be directed during first 10 minutes of transfusion for evidence of signs/symptoms of a transfusion reaction.
  - i. Hives / Itching
  - ii. Fever / Chills
  - iii. Hypotension

#### 4. Blood Transfusion Reaction:

- a. **STOP** the blood product infusion.
- b. **Change all tubing** and continue infusion with **Isotonic Crystalloid**.
- c. Secure discontinued blood bags and attached tubing in biohazard bag and notify receiving facility of transfusion reaction. Deliver bag of product / tubing directly to receiving facility's Transfusion Services Personnel for further evaluation. **Do not throw away bags of tubing.**
- d. For adult patients, administer **Solu-Medrol** 125 mg IV and **Benadryl** 50 mg IV.

#### 5. Documentation Requirements:

- a. Blood product type, Unit number, and Rh factor and estimated volume infused.
- b. Pre administration vital signs and vital signs at 15 minutes post initiation of blood products.
- c. Transfusion reaction observation and intervention if required.
- d. The reason for refusal to be documented.