

# Transfusion Instructions

## *Signs to Watch for After a Blood Transfusion*

Your child received a blood transfusion today. Although rare, sometimes there is a reaction to a transfusion. For the next few hours, watch for any of the following symptoms, which may signal that your child is having a reaction.

### Signs of a possible problem:

- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing – **CALL 911**
- Fever or chills
- Rash or itching
- Back pain below the ribs
- Nausea or throwing up
- Confusion or anxiety
- A change in your child’s health that concerns you

### Activity precautions

If your child was given a medicine that makes them groggy or sleepy:

- Keep watch for the next 4 to 6 hours or until the effects of the medicine have fully worn off. Your child may need help when walking.
- Supervise their activities to make sure they do not fall, ride a bike, drive a car or use dangerous machinery for at least 12 hours.

### Who to contact

- (206) 987-2000 - ask for the Hematology/Oncology fellow on call
- (206) 987-2000 - ask for the Nephrology fellow on call
- SCCA Transplant Patients:  
(206) 288-7600 between 8 a.m. to midnight  
(206) 987-2032 between midnight to 8 a.m.

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*Children’s will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Please call Marketing Communications at (206) 987-5205.*

*This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Children’s Hospital. However, your child’s needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child’s health-care provider.*