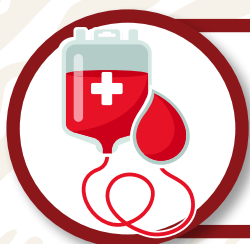


# Blood and Blood Products: Information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

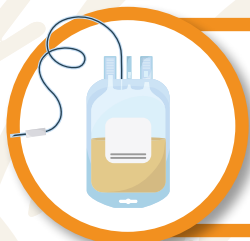
Townsville  
Hospital  
and Health  
Service

If you're feeling dizzy, tired, out of breath or are bleeding, you may need a blood transfusion. A blood transfusion is a medical procedure where blood, or parts of blood (red blood cells or platelets), are put into your body through your vein. A blood transfusion may help get you better when you are sick. The doctor will do a blood test to see if a transfusion can help you.



## RED BLOOD CELL TRANSFUSION

- Helps to replace red cells and treat anaemia
- Carries oxygen around the body
- Stops you from feeling dizzy, tired or out of breath.



## PLATELETS AND PLASMA TRANSFUSIONS

- Help to stop, fix or prevent bleeding.



## CONSENT

The doctor will talk to you about the blood transfusion. If you are happy to have the transfusion, the doctor will ask you to sign a Consent Form.



## HOW IT WORKS

- The transfusion can take between 30 minutes and 4 hours.
- The nurse will put a needle in your arm for the transfusion, so the blood can go into your vein.



## DURING THE TRANSFUSION

- The nurse will check on you to make sure you are okay. If you feel unwell, call for help.
- **Look out for: fever, itchy/rash, hard to breathe.**

**If you have concerns or need more information, talk to:**

Indigenous Liaison Officer | Health Worker | Hospital doctor or nurse | Family or friends



Partnering with Consumers - This patient information brochure supports National Safety and Quality Health Service Standard 2. Consumers and/or carers provided feedback on this patient information.



© The State of Queensland (Townsville Hospital and Health Service) 2022, [creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au)



Queensland  
Government