

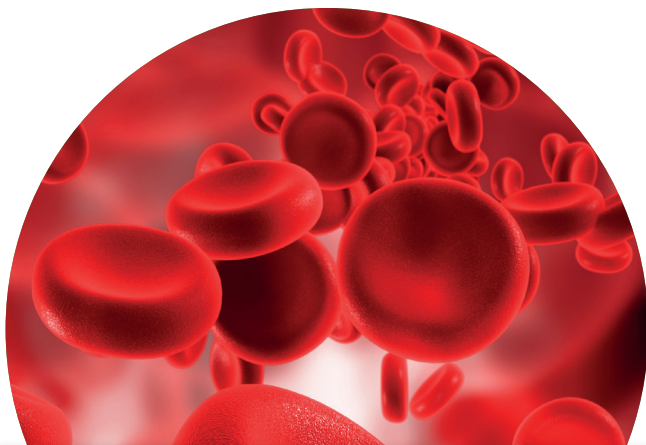
BLOOD PRODUCTS

What you need to know

Please read this leaflet before you (or your child) are given a labile blood product and/or a medicinal product derived from human blood.

It contains informations on :

- Blood products
- Blood type test prior to labile blood product transfusion
- Potential risks associated with blood transfusion
- What happens after a labile blood product transfusion



Blood products save the lives of many patients in medicine and surgery departments.

Every year in France, medicinal product derived from blood or labile blood products treat several hundreds of thousands of patients. Your doctor may prescribe one or more blood products he or she considers as essential for your health. For that, he or she weighed the benefits against the potential risks of such treatment.

What product will you receive ?

Labile blood products

- Packed red cells
 - Platelet concentrates
 - Fresh frozen plasma
- That carry oxygen through your body
- That are important for blood clotting

These products are obtained from human blood donations.

The "labile" term means that these products are stable over a short period of time.

Medicinal products derived from blood

Immunoglobulin, albumin, coagulation factors

These products are obtained from human plasma. Their quality, safety and efficiency have been assessed by the French National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety (ANSM).

These various blood products are rigorously checked and meet mandatory safety and quality standards :

- Medical selection of donors
- Screening test for each blood donation
- Screening for virus in plasma and platelets
- Manufacturing process of blood-derived medicinal products which includes elimination and/or inactivation of infectious agents using validated treatments



All blood products exhibiting a potential or proven risk are subject to a withdrawal procedure, including blood-derived medicines that you may already have at home.

What tests are done before transfusion of labile blood products ?

Each individual is unique. Thus, we have to determine your blood group in order to choose the most suitable product.

In order to guarantee the **transfusion safety**, several tests are performed :

- Two different blood tests to determine your blood group
- Test for irregular antibodies
- A final test at the time of the transfusion



The right product for the right patient

During each of these tests, you will be asked to give your full identity : birth name, birth surname, username and date of birth.

What are the known risks of this treatment today ?

Like all treatments, the administration of blood products presents potential risks :

- **Non serious adverse events** sometimes occur during or after administration of the products : hives, chills, fever, nausea or headaches.



It is important to talk with your doctor if you notice any of these symptoms during or after transfusion.

- **In very rare cases, irregular antibodies** (revealing immunization) may be detected in some patients after being transfused with **labile blood products**. These antibodies have no consequences on your health.



These antibodies should be known and the laboratory results must be kept with your medical records to select compatible blood for the next transfusion.

- **Risks of residual contamination by infectious agents (hepatitis B, C, E, and HIV viruses) is negligible or possibly non-existent.**

Labile blood products :

These risks are very limited and continue to decrease with advances in technical knowledge. Several million labile blood products are transfused each year in France and the theoretical risk of being contaminated is very low compared to the significant benefit provided by transfusion. *For example, there has been no case of transfusion transmitted HIV infection since 2002.*

Medicinal products derived from blood :

All risks presently known are taken into account through the manufacturing process of these drugs. Manufacturing and test procedures are regularly updated.

What to do after receiving blood products ?

After being transfused

(packed red cells, platelet concentrates)

You will be given a prescription for a blood test to do within 1 to 3 months of a transfusion.

This exam is important to detect irregular antibodies (RAI) prior to another transfusion or subsequent pregnancy.

A traceability system is designed to track all blood products from the donor to the recipient. These data are archived for many years.



Ask for and keep your blood group results or blood group card, as well as the post transfusion information document provided to you at the end of hospitalization.

There is no biological test after receiving medicinal products derived from blood.

Can I donate blood for my child or a relative ?

No, you cannot, because there are specific risks induced by blood transfusions from relatives.

Moreover, a parent donate blood to a child is associated to additional immunological risks compared to unrelated donors.



If you need additional information

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your doctor or your pharmacist.

Brochure also available in French on the CHU website → www.chu-bordeaux.fr > to research : Produits sanguins



French version

Pôle santé publique



SÉCURITÉ TRANSFUSIONNELLE
ET HÉMOVIGILANCE

Pôle produits de santé



PHARMACIE