1 PRESCRIBING BLOOD COMPONENTS

1.3 CHECKLIST FOR CLINICIANS

- Can transfusion be avoided or minimised electively by haematinics, erythropoietin, autologous pre-deposit, or pre-operatively by haemodilution or red cell salvage?
- What are the specific indications for blood component therapy?
- Do the benefits of the proposed transfusion outweigh the risks?
- Following a discussion of the potential benefits and risks of transfusion has the patient agreed to be transfused?
- Has the patient been given a Blood Transfusion Information Leaflet to read?
- Has this informed consent been documented in the patient notes?
- Has the laboratory been given a clear and accurate labelled sample and request for blood products, clearly stating when blood is required?
- Have the reasons for transfusion been clearly recorded in the patient’s notes?
- Have the nursing staff been notified of the intention to transfuse and has the necessary documentation of the planned transfusion been appropriately charted?
- Have adequate provisions been made for monitoring of the transfusion and immediate notification if any acute transfusion reactions occur?