

I-280 Transfusion Reaction Protocol

Purpose

Support/assist the client through the reaction.

Minimize severity of the reaction.

Alleviate symptoms.

Provide for arrangement of safe transport to acute care setting, if indicated.

Applies To

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses

Other (*Identify*): _____

Equipment/Supplies

- Transfusion Reaction Kit.
- Emergency Medication (as ordered by the physician):
Diphenhydromine 50mg/ml. IM or IV per orders
Epinephrine 1:1000 amp. Sub-q or IV per orders
- Blood or blood component.
- Normal saline 500ml bag.
- Blood administration set.
- Blood filter.
- Heparin and saline flushes as appropriate.
- Needleless cannula and adapter.
- Syringes (3ml with 22g needle, 6ml with 20g needle).
- Butterfly needles (19g).
- Peripheral cannula.
- IV administration set.
- Urine container.
- Blood specimen tubes.
- Gloves, tape, alcohol swabs.
- Latex injection ports.

Procedure

1. Stop infusion. Disconnect the blood administration set from the adapter or hub of venous access device.
2. Initiate new container of 0.9% sodium chloride using a standard administration set to maintain patency of venous access site.
3. Obtain and document vital signs.
4. Notify physician immediately of signs and symptoms of reaction if the transfusion reaction confirmed, notify the blood bank.
5. Administer therapies as ordered: antihistamine, antipyretic, epinephrine, corticosteroids, oxygen or IV fluids and antihistamines as ordered. If

anaphylactic reaction is occurring with vascular collapse (hypotension, rapid pulse, difficulty breathing), follow anaphylaxis protocol and administer Epinephrine. Call 911 and begin CPR if cardiac or respiratory arrest occurs.

6. Draw labs as ordered for post-transfusion reaction work-up , label and send to lab Complete transfusion reaction report.
7. Check identifying tags and numbers.
8. Collect blood and urine sample and send to lab.
9. **Return blood bags and tubing to blood banks.**
10. Arrange for client transport to acute setting, if indicated.

Documentation Guidelines

Document in the clinical record:

1. Time and date of reaction.
2. Type and amount of infused blood product.
3. Clinical signs of reaction in order of occurrence.
4. The client’s vital signs, and all signs and symptoms noted.
5. All specimens sent for laboratory testing.
6. Time of Physician notification and any emergency medical treatment provided, including medications administered, times and dosages, and response to treatment. Time of blood bank notification.
7. The client’s response to treatment.
8. Documentation to complete agency transfusion reaction form.
9. The client’s status at the end of the incident.

Related Procedures

None.

Policy History

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