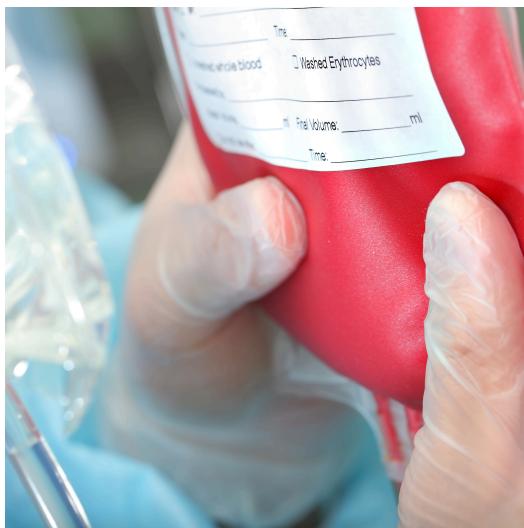




WASH

Washing



Modified products

- ⊕ RCSAG
- ⊕ RCWB
- ⊕ PLTPL
- ⊕ PLAP

Important notes

- ⊕ Transfusion of washed red cells must be completed within 24 hours, and platelets within 4 hours after washing
- ⊕ This is a restricted product. Consult with personnel from the Department of Transfusion Medicine before making a request for washed products

When to request?

Patients with history of severe reactions not manageable with standard interventions

- ⊕ Angio-oedema
- ⊕ Anaphylaxis
- ⊕ Recurrent FNHTR
- ⊕ Unexplained hypotensive episodes
- ⊕ IgA deficiency
- ⊕ Haptoglobin deficiency

Neonates

- ⊕ Confirmed Tn activation associated with necrotizing enterocolitis

Cellular blood components such as red cells and platelets are suspended in varying amounts of donor plasma. Donor plasma contains various proteins and constituents that act as antigens capable of eliciting an allergic reaction in the transfused patient. This can lead to mast cell activation and histamine release causing adverse reactions, ranging from mild itching and urticarial reactions to life-threatening anaphylaxis. Rarely, antibodies present in donor plasma may react with patient red cells and cause haemolysis.

Washing of red cells and platelets reduce the amount of donor plasma present in the blood

component and therefore reduces the occurrence of allergic reactions in at-risk patients who have had previous episodes of severe allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.

Washing of red cells and platelets involve the addition of a large volume of normal saline to the component bag, followed by centrifugation and removal of the supernatant. This leaves the remaining cells suspended in normal saline. Residual plasma content varies from 1-10 ml depending on the blood component. The shelf life of washed red cells and platelets is reduced to 24 and 4 hours respectively after washing.