

Contact Details

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call:

(please circle as appropriate)

Ambulatory Care

0121 371 3120

Mon–Sat 07:30–20:00

Wellcome Short Stay Unit

0121 371 3131/3137

Mon–Fri 07:15–20:00

East Block Day Unit

0121 627 2179

Mon–Fri 07:30–20:00

Other Ward

Telephone: _____

If you have concerns outside of the above hours, please call **111** (NHS direct) or visit your local walk-in centre. In an emergency, please visit your local Emergency Department.



The Trust provides free monthly health talks on a variety of medical conditions and treatments. For more information visit www.uhb.nhs.uk/health-talks.htm or call 0121 371 4323.

Haematology

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham
Mindelsohn Way, Edgbaston
Birmingham, B15 2GW
Telephone: 0121 627 2000

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University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust



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To see all of our current patient information leaflets please visit www.uhb.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets.htm

You have been given a transfusion of blood or blood components during this visit to hospital. Blood components is the medical term for the different parts of the blood, like platelets, red blood cells, or plasma. Blood transfusions are very safe, but as with any other intervention there are side effects that can occur. This leaflet will tell you what to look out for, and what to do if you experience any of these side effects.

Possible side effects

Most reactions occur within **24 hours** of the blood transfusion, but occasionally they can develop up to two weeks later.

If you develop any of the following symptoms within 24 hours of your transfusion, please dial **999** immediately:

- Worsening or severe breathlessness or wheeziness
- Swelling around the mouth, lips, or face

The following symptoms are usually less serious but may still require medical attention. If you develop any of these symptoms within **two weeks** of the transfusion, please contact your GP or your hospital doctor:

- fever – feeling hot and clammy, with a temperature above 38°C
- shivering or cold chills
- persistent sickness or vomiting
- extreme tiredness (only if this is new for you since the transfusion)
- passing blood in your urine
- passing a greatly reduced amount of urine, or passing very dark urine
- itchy skin rash
- unexpected or unexplained bruising
- jaundice (yellow colour of the whites of your eyes or your skin)

Other information

Unfortunately anyone who has received a transfusion of blood or any blood components since 1980 is unable to donate blood anymore.

Further resources

We have developed an educational video about blood transfusions that you might find useful:

<https://youtu.be/sWIEON8Z9U0>
