

## CHRONIC ANAEMIA

### Supporting information

**This guideline has been prepared with reference to the following:**

NICE. Vitamin B12 deficiency in over 16s: diagnosis and management. 2024. NICE. London

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng239>

Snook J, Bhala N, Beales I et al. British Society of Gastroenterology guidelines for the management of iron deficiency anaemia in adults. *Gut*. 2021;70:2030-51

<https://www.bsg.org.uk/clinical-resource/guidelines-iron-deficiency-anaemia-in-adults>

Carson JL, Stanworth SJ, Roubinian N et al. Transfusion thresholds and other strategies for guiding allogeneic red blood cell transfusion. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2016;10:CD002042

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD002042.pub4/full>

NICE. Blood transfusion. 2015. London. NICE

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng24>

Retter A, Wyncoll D, Pearse R et al. Guidelines on the management of anaemia and red cell transfusion in adult critically ill patients. *Br J Haematol*. 2013;160:445-64

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bjh.12143/full>

#### **Excessive or rapid transfusion can be harmful?**

This may result in circulatory overloading, which produces "...a rise in central venous pressure, an increase in the amount of blood in the pulmonary blood vessels and a diminution in lung compliance" (Mollison, 1997). Pulmonary oedema soon develops if early warning signs are not recognised. In severe cases, left ventricular failure occurs (Davies, 1990). Of 355 transfusion-associated deaths in the USA between 1976-1985, 11% were attributed to circulatory overload (Sazama, 1990). The approximate risk has also been expressed as 1 case per 10,000 units transfused (Walker, 1987).

Davies SC, Brozovic M. ABC of transfusion: Transfusion of red cells. *BMJ* 1990;300:248-52

<http://www.bmj.com/content/300/6719/248.full.pdf+html>

Mollison PL, Engelfriet CP, Contreras M, (eds). *Blood transfusion in clinical medicine*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Blackwell Science, 1997. p.307

Sazama K. Reports of 355 transfusion-associated deaths: 1976 through 1985. *Transfusion* 1990;30:583-90

Walker RH. Transfusion risks. *Am J Clin Path* 1987;88:374-8

**Evidence Level: V**

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