

General RBC Transfusion Guidelines: Stable, non-bleeding, non-OR inpatient

Pt's Hb	Units	When to consider transfusion
< 60 g/L	One to two*	Transfusion highly recommended except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Young pts may tolerate hemoglobin levels under 60 g/L without transfusion <input type="checkbox"/> Pts with chronic iron deficiency anemia without symptoms rarely need transfusion (consider IV iron)
< 70 g/L	One	Likely appropriate
< 80 g/L	One	Likely appropriate in pts with cardiovascular disease
< 90 g/L	One	Only if there are signs of impaired tissue oxygenation (shortness of breath, chest pain, tachycardia, syncope)
≥ 90 g/L	None	Likely inappropriate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Consult blood bank physician before ordering

* Transfuse units one at a time. Assess patient before transfusing second unit to determine if it is necessary