



Patient Information Leaflet

**Declining to accept treatment
with blood or blood products**
**A guide for women during pregnancy
and labour**

Produced by:
The Maternity Department

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If you are unable to read this leaflet because English is not your first language, please ask someone who speaks English to telephone PALS on 01983 534850 for further information and help.

Polish:

Jeśli nie jesteś w stanie przeczytać tej ulotki bo angielski nie jest pierwszym językiem, poproś kogoś, kto mówi po angielsku, o kontakt telefoniczny z (PALS 01983 534850) aby uzyskać więcej informacji i pomoc

Russian:

Если вы не можете прочитать этот буклет на английском языке потому что не является первым языке, пожалуйста, попросите кого-нибудь, кто говорит на английском языке для телефонного (PALS 01983 534850) для получения дополнительной информации и помощи

Turkish:

Eğer İngilizce ana diliniz değilse, çünkü bu broşürü okumak için yapamıyorsanız, daha fazla bilgi için 01983 534850 üzerinde PALS telefon İngilizce bilen birine sormak ve yardım lütfen

Bulgarian:

Ако не сте в състояние да прочетете тази листовка, тъй като английският не е първи език, опитайте някой, който говори английски, за да телефонирам (PALS на 01983 534850) за повече информация и помощ

Czech:

Pokud nejste schopni přečíst tuto příbalovou informaci, protože angličtina není vaším rodným jazykem, zeptejte se někoho, kdo mluví anglicky na telefonní PALS na 01983 534850 pro další informace a pomoc

Bengali:

আপনি ইংরেজি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না থাকার কারণে এই লফিলটে পড়তে অক্ষম হন, তাহলে আরও তথ্যের জন্য 01983 534850 নভেগিশেন PALS টলেফি এন ইংরেজি কথা কটে জিজ্ঞাসা করুন এবং সাহায্য করুন

This leaflet tells you about your right to refuse a transfusion of blood or blood products as part of your treatment and how this will be dealt with by the maternity department.

Can anyone refuse a blood transfusion?

Yes. We want to be sure that we treat every woman in a way which recognises their individual choices or religious beliefs.

If I decide to refuse treatment with blood or blood products, what will happen?

If you have strong views about blood transfusions and blood products, it is important that you tell us early in your pregnancy so that we can be prepared. Your community midwife will arrange a hospital appointment for you with a consultant obstetrician. At this appointment you will be able to discuss your wishes and the consultant will advise you of the potential risks and plan your care accordingly. This plan will be documented in your notes to ensure that all professionals involved in your care are aware of your wishes.

Referral to an Anaesthetist

During your pregnancy you will be offered an appointment with a Consultant Obstetric Anaesthetist who will also discuss with you any risks that may occur during your pregnancy.

How will staff react to my decision to refuse a blood transfusion or blood products?

The trust has an active programme to conserve blood and reduce the number of blood transfusions given for all patients.

Will I be asked to sign a consent form?

If, due to a problem with your pregnancy, you are required to have a caesarean section or any other invasive procedure, you would be required to sign a consent form. In signing the form you are **only agreeing to treatment you are willing to accept and which you have discussed** with your doctor. This will be written on the consent form before you are asked to sign it.

New consent forms, approved by the NHS, have been specially designed to take account of the needs of individual patients.

What will happen if I am admitted as an emergency?

If you are admitted to hospital in an emergency and we know of your wishes, we will respect and follow them. If you are unconscious on admission and you have on your person a written document (Advance Decision) stating your wishes this will be respected.

Verbal instruction from anyone other than the patient, even from next of kin, is not acceptable, although every effort would be made to trace written verification in existing notes or with your GP.

You can be confident that any treatment started whilst you are unable to consent would only be undertaken if deemed necessary in your best interests.

To help us respect your wishes you should:

- Have informed us in writing and asked for this to be kept in your medical record.
- Carry an 'Advance Decision' form with you at all times.

What if I have other concerns?

If you have questions which are not answered in this leaflet or are worried about any aspect of your treatment please talk to one of the midwives or doctors.

Jehovah's Witness

If you are one of the Jehovah's witnesses you will probably be carrying an 'Advance Decision to Refuse Specified Medical Treatment' (sometimes known as 'no blood form') which outlines your views regarding relevant medical and surgical treatments. Give a copy to your midwife and doctor and ask for it to be included in your medical notes. Your local Elders will be able to provide you with these documents and any further information you may require.

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If you have any queries or concerns about the content of this leaflet please call (01983) 524081 and ask to speak to the relevant department.

If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the PALS Team, telephone **01983 534850**, who will advise you.

Valuables should not be brought into the hospital. If patients have to bring in valuable items they should ask a nurse to store them safely and request a receipt for the items. You may not be able to have the valuable items returned if the time of discharge from hospital is out of hours.

We are sorry but the Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to items not given for safe keeping.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues online at: **www.nhs.uk**

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: **111**

We Value Your Views On Our Service

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the PALS Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on **01983 534850**.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust
St Mary's Hospital
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG

You can also share any concerns you have about our services with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on **03000 61 61 61** or at **enquiries@cqc.org.uk**

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.