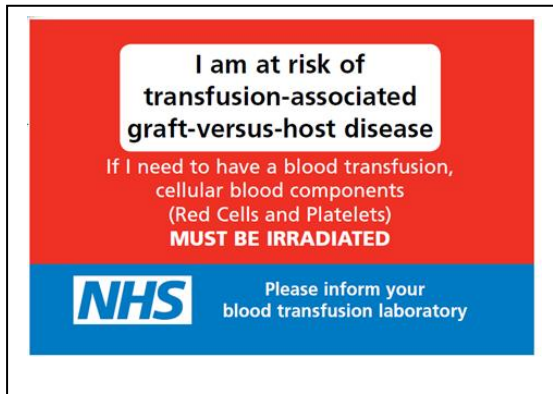


Patient Safety ALERT: Irradiated Blood Components



What is irradiated blood?

Irradiated blood has been treated with radiation to prevent Transfusion associated graft versus host disease (TA-GvHD)

FOR ACTION:

Ensure all staff requesting and prescribing blood components complete relevant clinical history on request forms and are aware which patients are at increased risk of TA-GvHD and should receive irradiated red cells or platelets:

- Babies receiving, or with a history of intra-uterine transfusions
- Exchange transfusions in neonates
- Donations from 1st or 2nd degree relatives or that are HLA matched
- Congenital immune deficiency states
- Patients with (or history of) Hodgkin's disease
- Patients treated with purine analogues (e.g. fludarabine)
- Potential and actual bone marrow recipients (irradiated blood products until a minimum of 6 months post autologous transplant or until effective immune reconstitution if allogeneic transplants)

Please contact the Haematology Team with any queries.