Medication Formulary

**Generic Name:** Blood – Whole or Packed Red Cells

**Brand Name:** None

**Class:** Human blood

**Actions:** The primary fluid of the circulatory system. Transports oxygen and nutrients. Oxygen attaches to the red blood cells via hemoglobin. White blood cells respond to systemic toxins, and platelets are essential for clotting.

**Onset:** Immediate

**Duration:** Not Applicable

**Indications:** Hypovolemic / Hemorrhagic Shock

**Contraindications:** Non-checked blood from an approved facility. Transfusion reactions.

**Side Effects:** Volume overload, transfusion reaction (fever, rash, dyspnea, anxiety, itching, chills, dysrhythmias, JVD, and shock.)

**Interactions:** Blood can only be administered with Normal Saline. Incompatible with any other crystalloid solutions. No drugs can be administered through a line with blood infusing. Always flush the line well with saline between units, and following completion of last unit.

**Administration Routes:** IV, IO

**Notes:** Closely monitor patients receiving blood. Treat infusion reactions with Diphenhydramine (Benadryl).