

# 10 COMMANDMENTS

**I**

**deally** transfuse using gravity sets. Very few pumps are indicated for blood transfusions. Syringe drivers however can be used.

**F**

**ragile.** Frozen units are fragile. Check for breaks or cracks and handle gently. Place the product into a ziplock bag when thawing to avoid drastic temperature changes

**C**

**rossmatching** RBCs is strongly recommended for all as reactions can occur on the first transfusion.

**A**

**void** overload; Calculate dosage and flow rates as part of the total 24h fluid volume.

**T**

**haw** or warm products NEVER exceeding 37°C. NEVER USE A MICROWAVE!

**S**

**aline** only! Never use Ringer's or Dextrose solutions. DO NOT run them at the same time (even in different limbs and different lines). This can cause hemolysis and or clotting.

**F**

**elines** should ALWAYS be blood typed and crossmatched.

**A**

**lways** use a filter. Normal in-line filters can be used for volumes over 50ml. Microaggregate filters should be used for volumes below 50ml.

**R**

**ate** of transfusion is regulated by: 1) Condition of the patient  
→ Transfusions can be as fast as needed/tolerated.

**M**

**onitor** patients regularly throughout the transfusion (guide provided).

2) Should be completed within 4h (with some exceptions).

3) Slow drip for the first 10-30min.

→ most acute reactions will occur in this window and the adverse effects mitigated.