

## **Post Licensure Paramedic Skills (PLS): Initiation of the Administration of Blood/Blood Products in the Pre-Hospital Environment**

Only EMS agencies approved by the Office of EMS and Trauma for this PLS and only Paramedics trained, approved and credentialed by the approved agency may utilize this post licensure skill.

Approval of this PLS Skill will also include approval of the PLS: Initiation and Maintenance of Additional units Blood/Blood Products.

Approval includes:

1. EMS Agency application: **EMS Agency – Apply for Post Licensure Paramedic Skill(s)**
2. Education Request submitted for the agency for each post licensure skill requested.

**Protocol** (At minimum must be included):

- Must be signed and dated by Medical Director
- Must include statement that only Paramedics trained, approved, and credentialed by agency and MD in this post licensure skill can utilize protocol Indications and Contraindications
- Must include policy for storage, handling, and maintenance of Blood/Blood Products.
- Must include Blood Bank agreement/policy.
- Must include use of commercial warming device.
- Administration and Dosing guidance
- Materials/equipment needed for transport
- Proper verification of patient and blood product
- Patient evaluation and monitoring after connection and throughout transport
- Procedure to discontinue or change out product
- Transfusion Reactions/Adverse Effects/Complications guidance
  - Signs/Symptoms
  - Treatments/Associated pharmacological agents
- Troubleshooting guidance
- Documentation and disposal of blood products guidance

**Education Request must include:**

Documents that must be uploaded: Curriculum (PowerPoints, handouts, etc.), Outline, Agenda, Skills Verification checklist, any tests being administered.

- Storage, handling, and maintenance of Blood/Blood Products in accordance with Blood Bank Policy.
- Pathophysiology review
- Types of Blood Products
- Inspection of blood products
- Materials/Equipment needed
- Procedure to initiate, continue, swap, and discontinue transfusions
- Types of transfusion reactions and management
  - Signs and symptoms
  - Treatments
  - Associated pharmacology needed
- Documentation:
  - Agency Specific requirements (including Blood Bank requirements)
  - Data that must be recorded (must be NEMSIS data elements)
- Clinical Scenarios and Skills verification checklist

**For PLS renewals:**

- An agency application must be submitted, and MD sign off.



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- Submission of Education request for agency:
  - Two (2) Education Request must be submitted if the initial education and the continued competency verification will be different for the Paramedic:
    - An Education Request for education for Paramedics acquiring initial PLS designation.
    - An Education Request for Paramedics who are already PLS designated for annual competency education.
      - This can be agency specific but must include at minimum, hands on skills verification.