

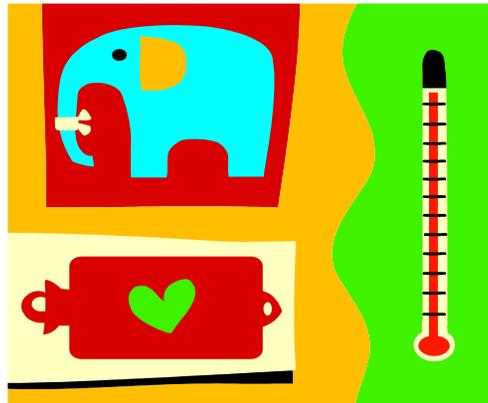
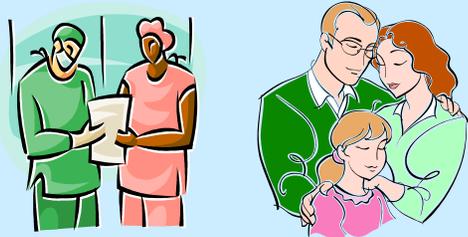


### HOW CAN I HELP?

Talk with your parents about getting a blood transfusion.



REMEMBER to tell your doctor or nurse — or mom or dad — if you have any problems.



GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
580-225-2511  
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INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN RECEIVING A BLOOD TRANSFUSION

By Jean E. Forsberg, M.D.



## ARE YOU ABOUT TO RECEIVE A BLOOD TRANSFUSION?

### WHAT IS A BLOOD TRANSFUSION?



A blood transfusion is when your doctor gives you blood through one of the veins in your arm.

Your doctor thinks that your body needs more blood.

Ask your doctor why.



If you have had a blood transfusion before, be sure to tell your doctor.

### WHAT HAPPENS DURING A TRANSFUSION?

A little bit of your blood will be sent to the lab. The lab will match your blood with blood from another person.



Then your doctor or nurse will put a needle into your arm. Blood will go down a tube into the needle and into your arm.

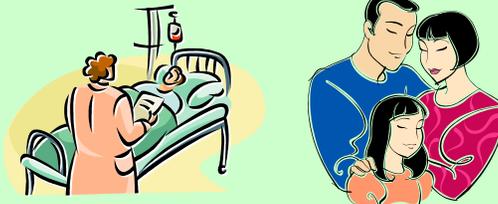
A nurse will check how fast your heart is beating (your pulse) and take your temperature.



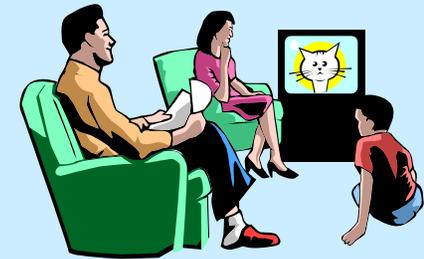
## PATIENT INFORMATION

### WILL I BE ALONE DURING A BLOOD TRANSFUSION?

Your mom and dad can stay with you.



During the blood transfusion, you can watch TV or talk on the telephone while lying in bed or sitting in a chair.



### ARE THERE ANY REACTIONS?

Sometimes, a transfusion causes fever or rash. Your doctor can give you medicines if these things happen

A reaction can cause these things:

- \* A cold, shaky feeling
- \* Pain in your back
- \* Pink or red urine (pee)
- \* Problems breathing
- \* Itching



Tell your nurse — or your mom or dad — right away if you have any of these feelings.

### WHAT CAN HAPPEN TO ME?

Some people may get a bruise where the needle is put into their arm.

The needle may hurt a little, too.

