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| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | Approved by: Stuart Lord | |

Management of Major Haemorrhage

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| 5. Appendix 2 on display blood transfusion GRH | |
| 6. Appendix 3 on display blood transfusion GRH | |
| 7. Appendix 4 on display blood transfusion GRH | |
| 8. Appendix 5 on display blood transfusion GRH | |
| 9. Appendix 1 on display blood transfusion CGH | |
| 10. Appendix 2 on display blood transfusion CGH | |
| 11. Appendix 3 on display blood transfusion CGH | |
| 12. Appendix 4 on display blood transfusion CGH | |
| 13. Appendix 5 on display blood transfusion CGH | |
| 14. Appendix 6 Porters Room GRH | |
| 15. Appendix 6 Porters room CGH | |
| 16. Appendix 7 GRH Theatre Emergency Co-ordinator | |
| 17. Appendix 8 CGH ACRT and Site Team | |

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| <p>EXAMINATION PROCEDURES Must include all of the template headings. Where headings are not required, they should have 'n/a' written against them.</p> |
| <p>POLICIES AND SOPS NOT REGARDING EXAMINATIONS may use headings as appropriate to that document.</p> |

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|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 1 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
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AMENDMENT HISTORY

| Amendment | | Amendment detail <i>(Include page numbers and/or section headings where the changes have occurred)</i> |
|-----------|----------|---|
| Issue No. | Date | |
| 1.0 | 15/07/20 | New |
| 2.0 | 21/07/21 | Remove appendix 3 and replace appendix 2 with new amalgamated algorithm. Code pack A packaged in 2 transport boxes. Include ACRT & theatre coordinator in Code red call group. Update Appendix 3 |
| 3.0 | 08/09/21 | Minor change on Appendix 3, paperwork to go with blood in a box, communication with ward re blood to location or fridge, Fibrinogen concentrate given only if ROTEM used. |
| 4.0 | 07/11/23 | Remove reference to BTRA 002 as amalgamated with BTRA 001 Remove Code red from title Change in functionality / test sets in IPS to TCLE. Change in "BUZZ]" word for major haemorrhage teams – Code red no longer used. Appendix 1 new; appendix 2 & 6 updated. |
| 5.0 | 02/01/24 | GRH Theatre Emergency Co-Ordinator added to CGH call group Include pathway for GRH Theatre Emergency Co-ordinator Include pathway for Logistics of Running ROTEM at CGH Change in Title |
| 6.0 | 15/01/24 | Inclusion of 3 rd anaesthetist on call in adult call group at CGH |
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|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 2 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
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LOCATION

Blood Transfusion GRH and CGH
 Clinical area GRH and CGH

GRADE

State registered BMS and clinical registered practitioners

PURPOSE OF EXAMINATION

Excessive blood loss can jeopardise the survival of patients in many clinical settings. The provision of blood for life threatening haemorrhages therefore requires a rapid and focused approach. Early recognition of major blood loss and immediate effective interventions are vital to avoid hypovolaemic shock and its consequences. One such action is the rapid provision of blood and blood components, for which effective communication between all personnel involved in the provision and transportation of blood is key.

PRINCIPLE AND METHOD

The ROTEM Sigma is a point of care testing device for rapid, whole blood diagnosis of coagulopathies to optimize patient blood management in major surgeries and traumatic bleeding.

Viscoelastometric point-of-care testing is intended for use:

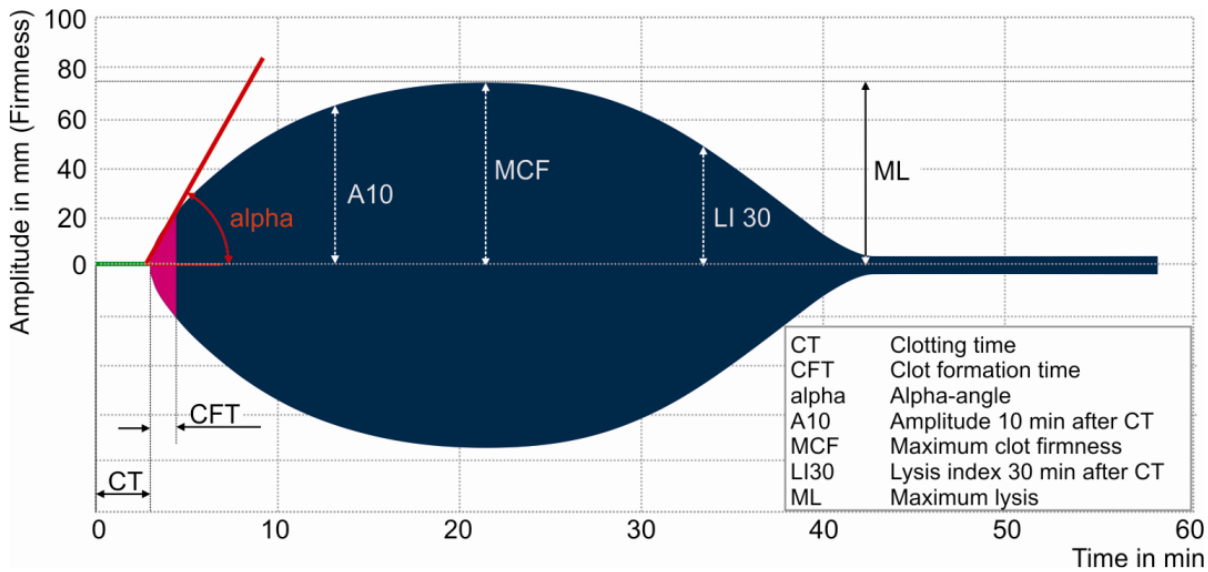
- During surgery to identify the probable cause of intraoperative bleeding by discriminating between poor platelet function and poor clotting. The results allow the clinician to select the correct therapy.
- In the immediate post-operative period to help control haemostasis and help guide the clinician to determine whether bleeding is a result of a coagulopathy or a surgical bleed.

The ROTEM Sigma is based on viscoelastic testing. Once the blood sample is placed on the pin in the first cuvette, the blood will enter each of the other 4 cuvettes. A cylindrical pin is then immersed and is oscillated by a spring to the right and the left. The movement of the pin is unrestricted as long as the blood is liquid but encounters resistance as the blood begins to clot. The clot increasingly restricts the rotation of the pin with rising clot firmness. The results are calculated by an integrated computer and reproduced in graphical format (figure 1). The device produces a graph of coagulation against a time axis. A prolonged clotting time can indicate a coagulation disorder. The first results are available within 5-10 minutes for quick therapy decisions and full qualitative results are available in 20 minutes.

The ROTEM sigma measures:

- Thrombin generation
- Fibrinogen
- Platelets
- Fibrinolysis

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 3 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |



Haemostasis is a term used to describe the process of blood clotting and the subsequent dissolution of the clot, following repair of the injured tissue. During haemostasis four steps occur in a rapid sequence;

- Vascular constriction is the first response as the blood vessels constrict to allow less blood to be lost.
- In the second step, platelets become activated by thrombin and aggregate at the site of injury, forming a temporary, loose platelet plug. The protein fibrinogen is primarily responsible for stimulating platelet clumping. Platelets clump by binding to collagen, which becomes exposed following rupture of the endothelial lining of vessels, and cover the break in the vessel wall.
- The third step is called coagulation or blood clotting. Coagulation reinforces the platelet plug with fibrin threads that act as a “molecular glue”.
- Finally, the clot must be dissolved in order for normal blood flow to resume following tissue repair. The dissolution of the clot occurs through the action of plasmin.

Platelets are a large factor in the haemostatic process. They allow for the creation of the “platelet plug” that forms almost directly after a blood vessel has been ruptured. Within seconds of a blood vessel’s epithelial wall being disrupted platelets begin to adhere to the sub-endothelium surface. It takes approximately sixty seconds until the first fibrin strands begin to intersperse among the wound. After several minutes the platelet plug is completely formed by fibrin.

Fibrinogen Concentrate (Fibryga 1g) can quickly be reconstituted and administered to replace human fibrinogen.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

N/A

TYPE OF SAMPLE

Blood

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | | Approved by: Stuart Lord |

PATIENT PREPARATION

N/A

TYPE OF CONTAINER AND ADDITIVES

For Laboratory:

- Blood Transfusion EDTA (pink) x 2
- FBC (purple)
- Coagulation screen (PT, APTT, Fibrinogen) (Blue)
- U&Es (Ochre)

For POCT:

- ROTEM (blue) **Must be filled to line**
- VBG for iCa, lactate, Hb

REQUIRED REAGENTS

N/A

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

ROTEM point of care device – to be used by Recovery, ODP or Anaesthetist only
The maintenance and quality control of the ROTEM is the responsibility of the Blood Conservation Co-Ordinator.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY CONTROLS

Refer to [BTRA 001 Blood Transfusion Risk Assessment](#)

CALIBRATION PROCEDURES

N/A

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|--|------------------------|--|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 | |
| Page 5 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
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PROCEDURAL STEPS

1. Pre-Alert Call

In some other circumstances, you may receive a **pre-alert** call informing you that a patient with major haemorrhage is on their way to ED.

- Obtain any patient details, if available
- Request that the Major Haemorrhage call is activated **once the patient has arrived and has been assessed.**
- Ascertain estimated time of arrival.
- **In cases where the criteria for Trauma Major Haemorrhage or if the clinician requests, start thawing 4 units Group A or AB FFP**

2. Activation of Haemorrhage Call

- 2.1 The Major Haemorrhage Protocol, which includes Haematology BMS, Acute Care Response Team member, Emergency Theatre Co-ordinator, Medical Registrar and Porter for the respective site, should be initiated in the following circumstances:

Trauma (ED)

Major trauma and 2 or more of following:

- Systolic BP < 100 mmHg
- Heart rate > 100bpm with major bleeding
- Penetrating injury

Or at discretion of Trauma Team Leader (TTL)

Non-Trauma

- Acute blood loss > 1500ml and suspected active bleeding
- Bleeding > 150 ml/min
- Loss of half circulating blood volume in less than 2 hrs
- Rapid blood loss with poor response to fluid resuscitation

Paediatric

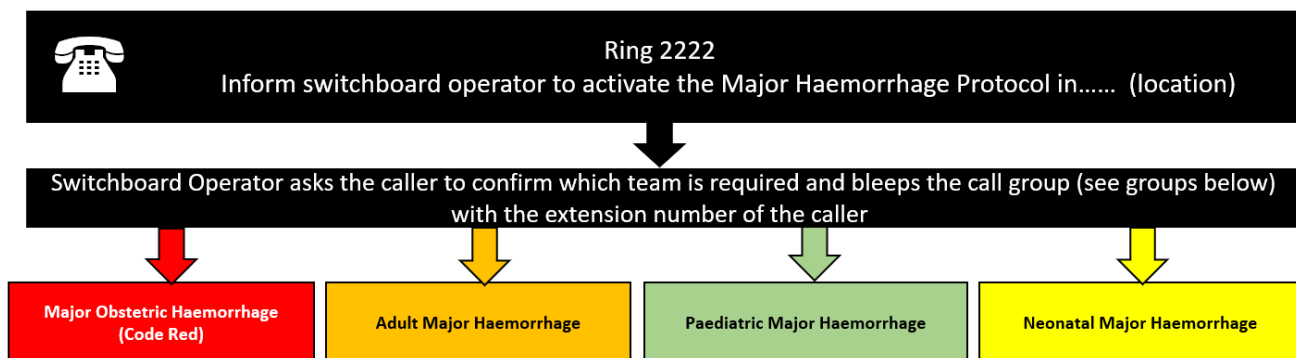
- Acute blood loss >40ml/kg and suspected active bleeding
- +/- Clinical signs of hypovolemic shock
- +/- Poor response to fluid resuscitation

NB A Neonatal Major Haemorrhage call also includes Maternity CDS Midwife

An Adult major haemorrhage call at CGH also includes Site Team and DCC Resident Doctor

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 6 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

- 2.2 The Team Leader will call 2222 and declare Major Haemorrhage in the location (where the patient is currently in).
- 2.3 Switchboard will then ask the caller to confirm which team is required (Refer to Appendix 1), and will bleep the relevant call group with the extension number of the caller. The communication from switchboard will be one of the following:
- Major Obstetric Haemorrhage (Code Red)
 - Adult Major Haemorrhage
 - Paediatric Major Haemorrhage
 - Neonatal Major Haemorrhage



- 2.4 The nominated Communications Lead in the Clinical area **should** contact you to inform you of:
- Patient's details (full name, identification number and date of birth or minimum acceptable identifiers if patient unknown)
 - contact number
 - the degree of urgency i.e. whether emergency group O red cells required / already used or whether group compatible blood is required (15-20min)
 - patient's weight if patient < 40 Kg, type of injuries/ nature of bleed, abnormal bleeding
- 2.6 Major Haemorrhage pathway is activated (Appendix 2)

3. Action for staff included in Major Haemorrhage

3.1 Porter

- The porter will collect the bloods samples from the clinical area, if not already sent. There will be samples for the laboratory (Transfusion, Full blood count, coagulation screen and fibrinogen, U&Es), which must be taken directly to the laboratory. There will also be a sample for testing on the ROTEM. This sample must be taken to Main Theatre, GRH or General Theatre Recovery, CGH.
- The porter or deputy will collect either the EMERGENCY Group O red cells (O Positive for males, O Negative for females) from the blood fridge or the issued blood from the laboratory, as directed by BMS, and take to the location.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | | Approved by: Stuart Lord |

3.2 Theatre Emergency Co-Ordinator

Refer to **Appendix 7 GRH Emergency Theatre Co-Ordinator Action Card**

- At GRH, there are resident theatre staff available 24/7
- At CGH, normal working hours are 08:00 – 22:00 Monday – Friday, and 08:00 – 13:00 Sat – Sun. Outside these times there will be a non-resident on call provision for return to theatres or emergency cases.
- On receipt of Adult Major Haemorrhage call at a CGH location, the GRH Theatre Emergency Co-Ordinator must call in the non-resident on call team **immediately**, as there is a maximum 30 minute travel time.

3.3 Consultant Haematologist

The Consultant Haematologist will be available to offer clinical advice.

3.4 Team Leader

The Anaesthetist on call will go to location to co-ordinate haemorrhage event, unless trauma call, in which the Trauma Team Leader will co-ordinate the event.

3.5 Recovery / ODP / Anaesthetist / Site Team CGH

- Recovery / ODP / Theatre staff / anaesthetist or a member of site team at CGH, who has been trained and assessed as competent, will run the citrate sample on the ROTEM on receipt.
- Refer to [BTN 130 Guide to Running a Patient Sample on the ROTEM](#)
- The Anaesthetist will be responsible for interpreting the ROTEM results and requesting blood components / products based on the ROTEM and/or laboratory results

3.6 Acute Care Response Team (ACRT) (Bleep 1700 CGH; 2700 GRH)

Refer to **Appendix 8 CGH ACRT and Site Team Action Card**

- There is usually one ACRT member on each site 24/7. On the occasion where only one member available overnight, they will be located at GRH but contactable on **Bleep 1700 CGH.**

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 8 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | Approved by: Stuart Lord | |

- The ACRT will communicate requirements with the laboratory and ensure the laboratory samples and a sample for the ROTEM are taken, and samples are repeated at least hourly.
- In the event the ROTEM analyser downtime, consider requesting FFP early and sending the sample to GRH via pathology for testing.
- The ACRT will ensure the Haemorrhage protocol is followed.

3.7 Site Team

Refer to **Appendix 8 CGH ACRT and Site Team Action Card**

- The Site Team at CGH are responsible for starting to run the sample on the ROTEM.
- Once the samples have been taken, a member of the Site Team must take one of the citrate samples to Recovery in General Theatre and run the sample on the ROTEM.
- The Site Team must follow [BTN 130 Guide to Running a Patient Sample on the ROTEM](#)
- The Site Team are responsible for ensuring and new staff working at CGH are trained in how to run a ROTEM test.

3.8 CGH Medical Reg / DCC Resident Doctor

- Consider if onsite laboratory services required at CGH, and if so, inform laboratory BMS

3.9 3rd Anaesthetist on call at GRH (CGH calls only)

- The resident 3rd on call anaesthetist at GRH can help coordinate anaesthetic provision at CGH by liaising with the CGH DCC Resident doctor to determine if Consultant Anaesthetist needs to be called in.
- To establish if the on-call theatre team can be stood down on arrival.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 9 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | Approved by: Stuart Lord | |

3.10 Laboratory BMS

- If the clinical location has not contacted you within 5 minutes with any details, then **YOU must phone the location immediately (using the second phone line in transfusion Ex 5280 (GRH) or Ex 3270 (CGH)) to minimise any delay in the provision of blood and blood components, and obtain patient details, nature of haemorrhage, contact name and number. If no response, contact the ACRT.**
- The BMS must check LIMS to review previous transfusion history and establish if blood group already known.
- Group O red cells should be used in the emergency situation until the patient's ABO group is known. Females < 51 years should receive O Negative K- red cells. Consider group O Positive red cells in males and women > 51 years.
- On receipt of transfusion sample, perform a Biovue Rapid Group (BRG) and issue **Code Pack A** (4 red units red cells) using test set Emergency Red Cell Issue (ERCU).

Refer to Appendix 5 for the 2- sample rule and tests to be requested

Check with the location, if the blood is required in the clinical area or to go straight to the satellite blood fridge. If 2 or 4 units are required in the clinical area, these must be packaged in a transport box, but **ONLY Package 2 units of red cells maximum in a transport box i.e 2 per box, as this will minimise wastage in the clinical area and seal with a security tag.**

Complete a transport form to go to the clinical area. The transport form serves as the audit trail in the absence of Blood360

Refer to [BTSOP 142 Transport of Blood within Gloucestershire](#)

- A full blood group and antibody screen AND retrospective crossmatch must be performed.
- Once completed enter "Blood crossmatched retrospectively and units compatible by IAT", and inform the clinical team. In the event that any units are incompatible, you must contact the senior clinician immediately to inform, and recall the units if possible. Inform a senior member of staff.

(Refer to Appendix 3 for tests to be requested based on number of times patient has had a group and screen)

- Inform haematology with details of major haemorrhage so that FBC and coagulation screen plus fibrinogen can be processed urgently and the results phoned through to Communication Lead.
- Depending upon the situation, communicate to the Porter of the need and time to return to collect further components, if required.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 10 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

- Login in to ROTEM LIVE (Login **rotem**; password **Rotem123**) to review the ROTEM results and to confirm further requests for components, as the Team Leader will move to goal directed therapy based on these results. Refer to ROTEM Algorithm (Appendix 4).
- If the team have been unable to maintain a BP 100, then they may ask for **CODE PACK B**. This consists of:
 - **2 x Cryoprecipitate** (or less if patient < 40 Kg) or Fibrinogen Concentrate
 - **2 x FFP** (or less if patient < 40 Kg).
 - **1 x Platelets**
 - **2 x red cells**
- **Request for platelets will depend upon clinical situation and laboratory results.** If platelets are required before the blood group of the patient is known, Group A should be used. Rh D negative platelets should be used in females < 50 years. These may be requested when platelet count falls < 100 x 10⁹/l and should be transfused when platelet count < 50 x 10⁹/l.
- **Request for Cryoprecipitate will depend upon the fibrinogen result and the availability of Fibrinogen Concentrate.** Fibrinogen needs to be replaced when fibrinogen < 1.5 g/l or < 2g/l in obstetrics.
For non-obstetric patients:

| Fibrinogen dosing guide | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| FIBTEM A5 target ≥10mm | | |
| FIBTEM A5 | Cryoprecipitate | Fibrinogen concentrate |
| 7-10mm | 1-2 TD doses | 2g |
| ≤6mm | 2 TD doses | 4g |

For Obstetric Patients:

| Fibrinogen dosing guide | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| FIBTEM A5 target ≥10mm | | |
| FIBTEM A5 | Cryoprecipitate | Fibrinogen concentrate |
| 7-10mm | 1-2 TD doses | 4g |
| ≤6mm | 2 TD doses | 6g |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
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The dose given will depend upon if the patient is an obstetric patient or not, and the FIBTEM A5 value.

Fibrinogen concentrate must only be given if the ROTEM has been used; if not, then cryoprecipitate should be issued instead.

The administration of Fibrinogen concentrate **must** be approved by Consultant Anaesthetist.

There is 4g Fibrinogen Concentrate stored in Theatre ROTEM Fridge at GRH and 2g Fibrinogen Concentrate stored in Recovery POCT Fridge at CGH. If used, the BMS must replace the stock immediately.

- The BMS **must** ring the clinical area and speak to the Communication Lead to inform when blood components are ready
- Repeat Full blood counts and coagulation screens as required, and issue blood and blood components following further communication from the Communication Lead in the Clinical Area.
- Remember to Replace the Emergency Group O blood in the satellite Blood Fridge

3.11 Stand down

- The Communication Lead / Senior clinician should inform the laboratory when to “stand down”.
- If the major haemorrhage is at CGH out of hours, the Site Team need to inform the Emergency Theatre Co-Ordinator at GRH that the non-resident theatre team have been stood down and when.
- Any unused blood components must be recalled to the laboratory to ensure that the cold chain is maintained. Refer to [BTSOP124 on Recall of blood components and products](#)
- The Major Haemorrhage review form ([BTCH 105](#)) must be completed.
- Traceability audit trail must be completed as soon as possible including the return of any tags of emergency group O given and Fibrinogen concentrate.

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES

N/A

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 12 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
| Author: Tracy Clarke | | Approved by: Stuart Lord |

INTERFERENCES AND CROSS REACTIONS

N/A

PRINCIPLE OF PROCEDURE FOR CALCULATING RESULTS (Including, where relevant, the measurement uncertainty of measured quantity values).

N/A

BIOLOGICAL REFERENCE INTERVALS / CLINICAL DECISION VALUES

Refer to ROTEM algorithm (Appendix 2)

REPORTING OF RESULTS

Refer to Appendix 3 for tests to be requested depending upon 2-sample rule criteria.

REPORTABLE INTERVAL OF EXAMINATION RESULTS

N/A

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DETERMINING QUANTITATIVE RESULTS WHEN A RESULT IS NOT WITHIN THE MEASURED INTERVAL

N/A

ALERT / CRITICAL VALUES

- In the event of any incompatibility or antibody in patients' plasma identified retrospectively, the BMS must contact the Team Leader to inform and establish what has been transfused.
- Hb < 70g/l
- Platelets < 75 x 10⁹/l
- PT ratio > 1.5 or 18 seconds
- APTT ratio > 1.5 or 40 seconds
- Fibrinogen < 1.5g/l or 2g/l in obstetrics

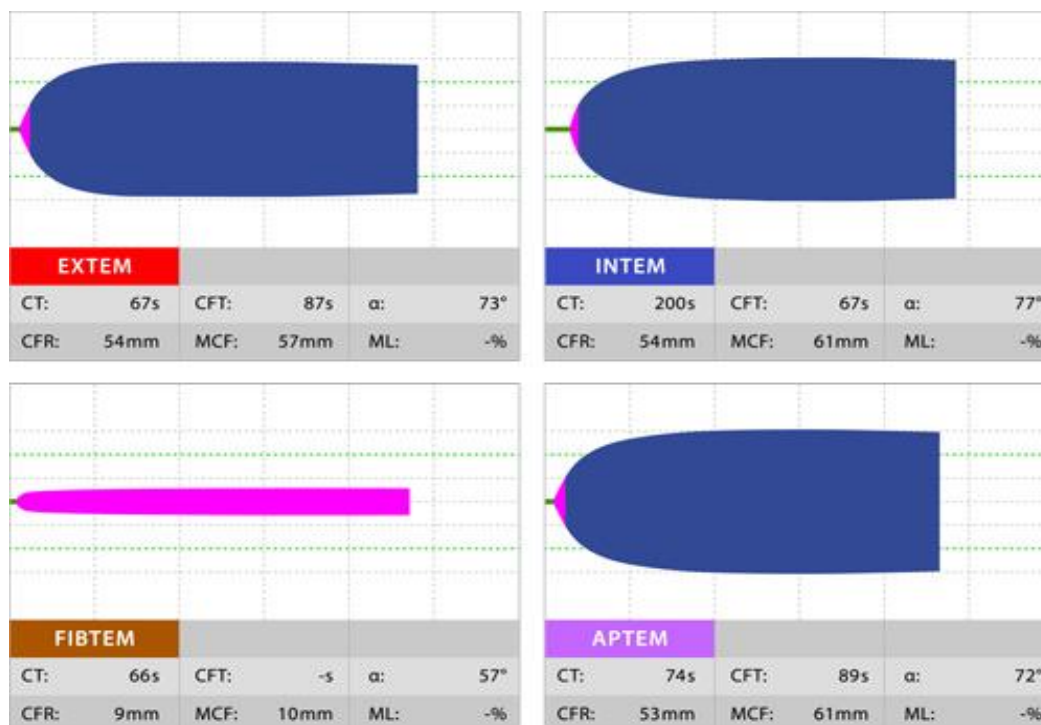
LABORATORY CLINICAL INTERPRETATION

Refer to ROTEM algorithm (Appendix 4)

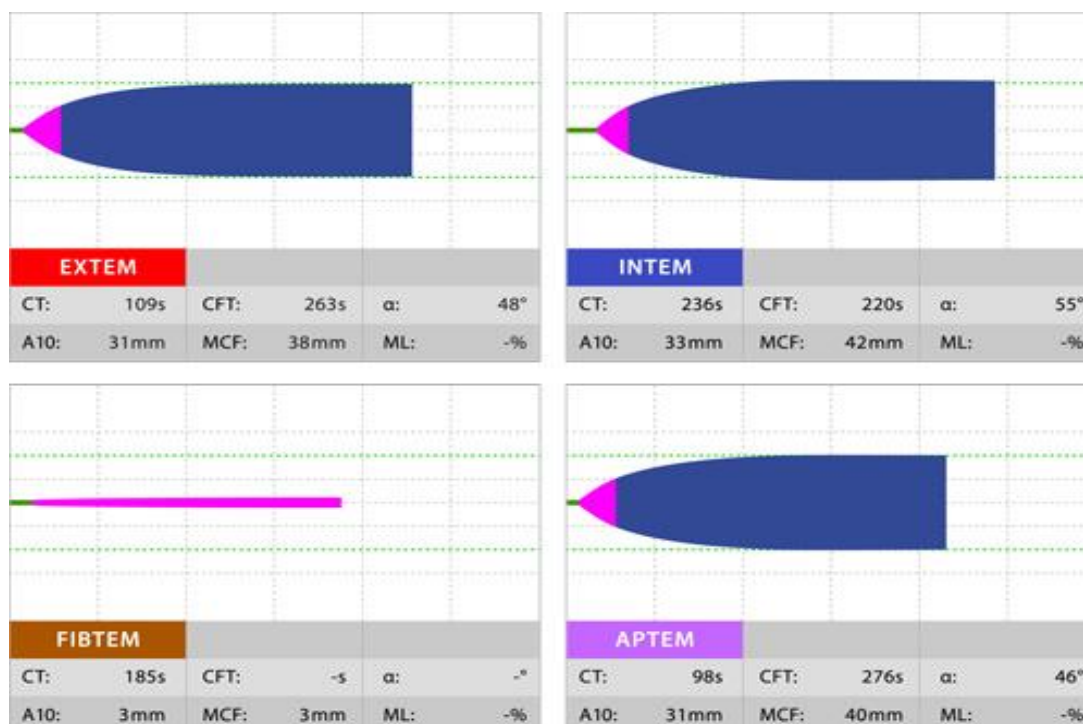
The Clot formation rate (CFR) / amplitude (A) of the clot can be measured at 5, 10, 20, or 30 mins. We use the Amplitude at 5 minutes (A5) as this allows earlier intervention.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 13 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

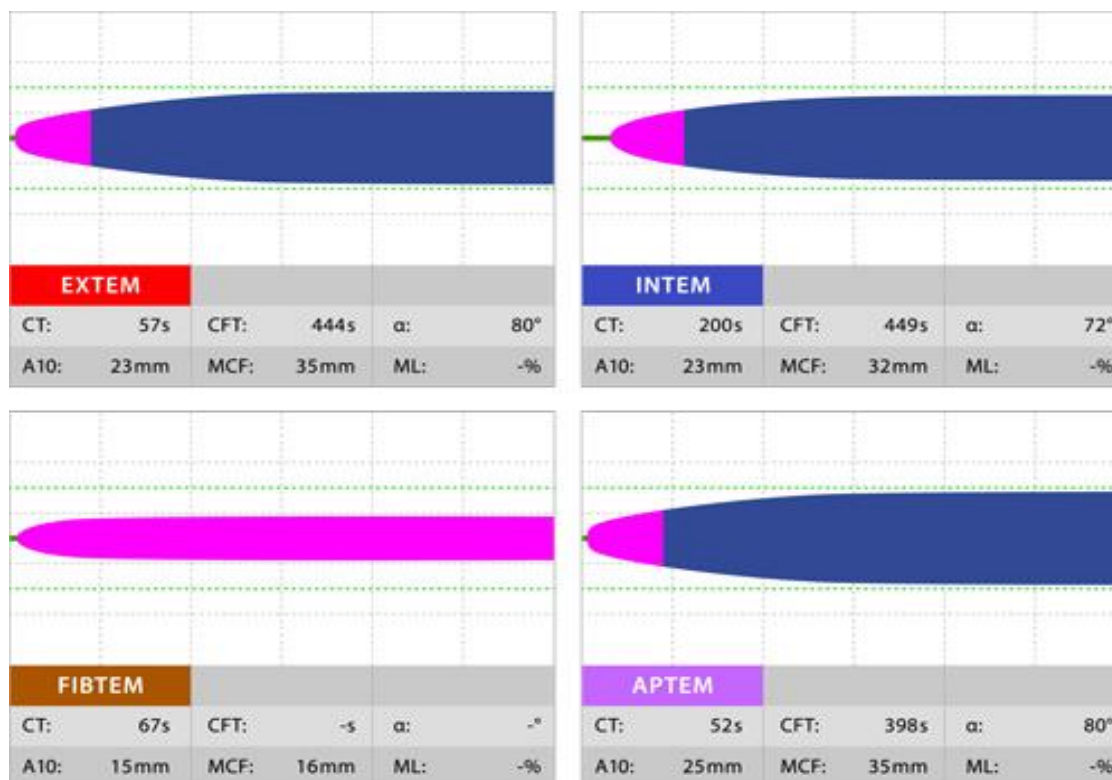
1. Normal or Surgical Bleeding



2. Fibrinogen Deficiency



3. Platelet Deficiency



POTENTIAL SOURCES OF VARIATION

In the event ROTEM is not available, consider requesting FFP earlier.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING:

| Document name/number | Version | Location |
|---|------------------|---|
| Blood Safety and Quality Regulations | 2005 | http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2005/20050050.htm |
| A practical guideline for the haematological management of major haemorrhage | 2015 | http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/bjh.13580/full |
| Blood Transfusion and the Anaesthetist | 2010 | www.aagbi.org |
| NPSA Rapid Response Report The transfusion of blood and blood components in an emergency | NPSA/2010/RRR017 | http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/type/alerts/?entryid45=83659 |
| BSH Haematological management of major haemorrhage: A British Society for Haematology Guideline | 2022 | https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/bjh.18275 |
| Acute traumatic coagulopathy: pathophysiology and resuscitation | 2016 | British Journal of Anaesthesia, 117 (S3):iii31-iii43 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
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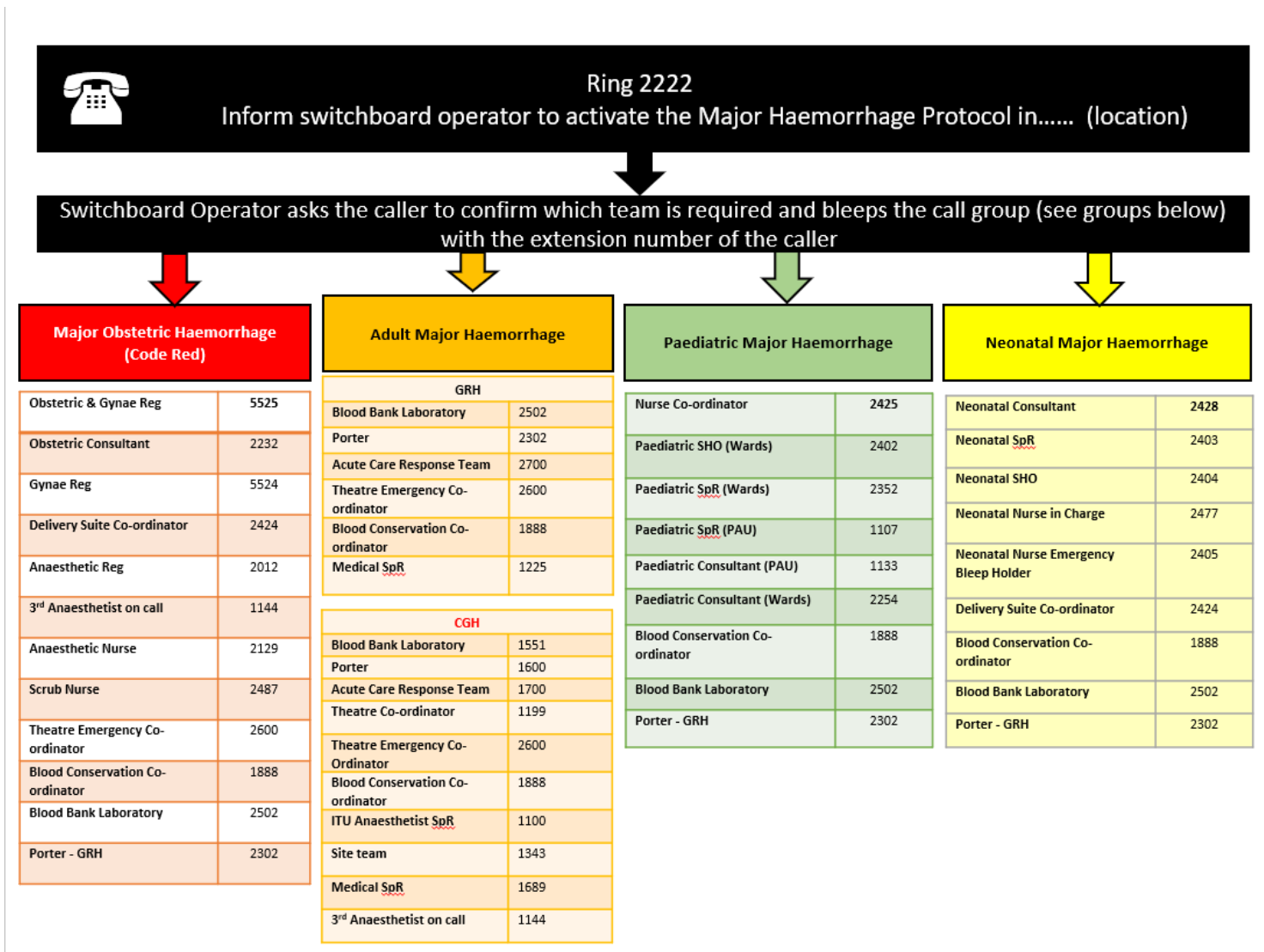
| | | |
|---|------|---|
| NICE Viscoelastometric point-of-care testing (ROTEM, TEG and Sonoclot systems) to assist with detecting, managing and monitoring of haemostasis | 2013 | https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/dg13/documents/viscoelastometric-pointofcare-testing-rotem-teg-and-sonoclot-systems-to-assist-with-detecting-managing-and-monitoring-of-haemostasis-final-scope2 |
| Blood Transfusion Action Card AC15 | | Trust Intranet |
| Blood Transfusion Action Card AC16 | | Trust Intranet |
| BTCH 105 Major Haemorrhage Review Template | | QPULSE |
| BTSOP 142 Transport of Blood within Gloucestershire | | QPULSE |
| BTN 130 Guide to Running a Patient Sample on the ROTEM | | QPULSE |
| BTRA 001 Blood Transfusion Risk Assessment | | QPULSE |
| BTSOP124 on Recall of blood components and products | | QPULSE |

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Controlled Document. For additional copies, users must check that it is the current version. | |
| Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage | |
| User Ref: BTSOP 136 | Issue No. 6.0 |
| Page 16 of 24 | Issue Date: 15/01/2024 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Department: Blood Transfusion | Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT | Review Interval: 2 yearly |
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Appendix 1

Major Haemorrhage Call Groups



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Title: Management of Major Haemorrhage

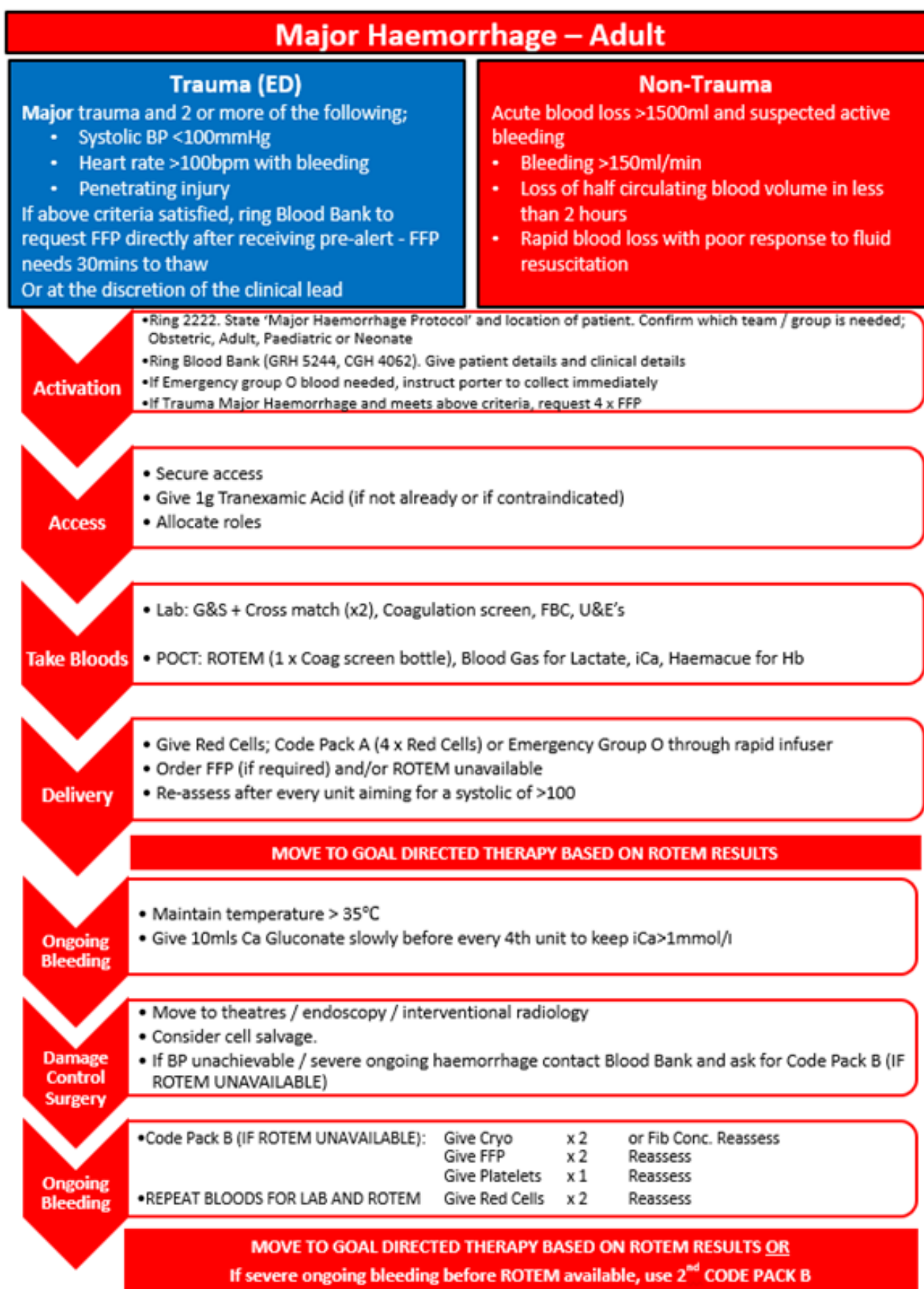
User Ref: BTSOP 136

Issue No. 6.0

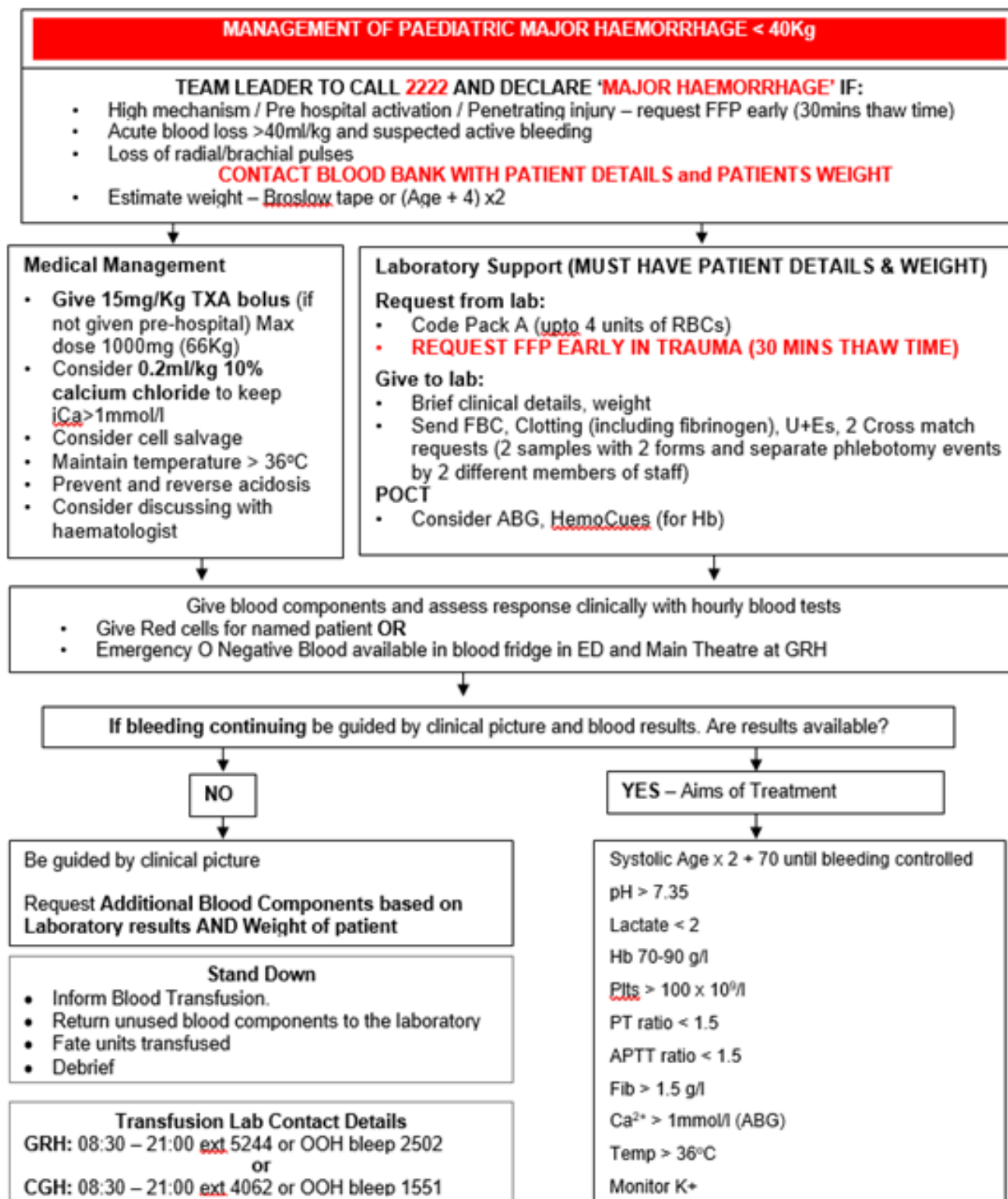
Page 17 of 24

Issue Date: 15/01/2024

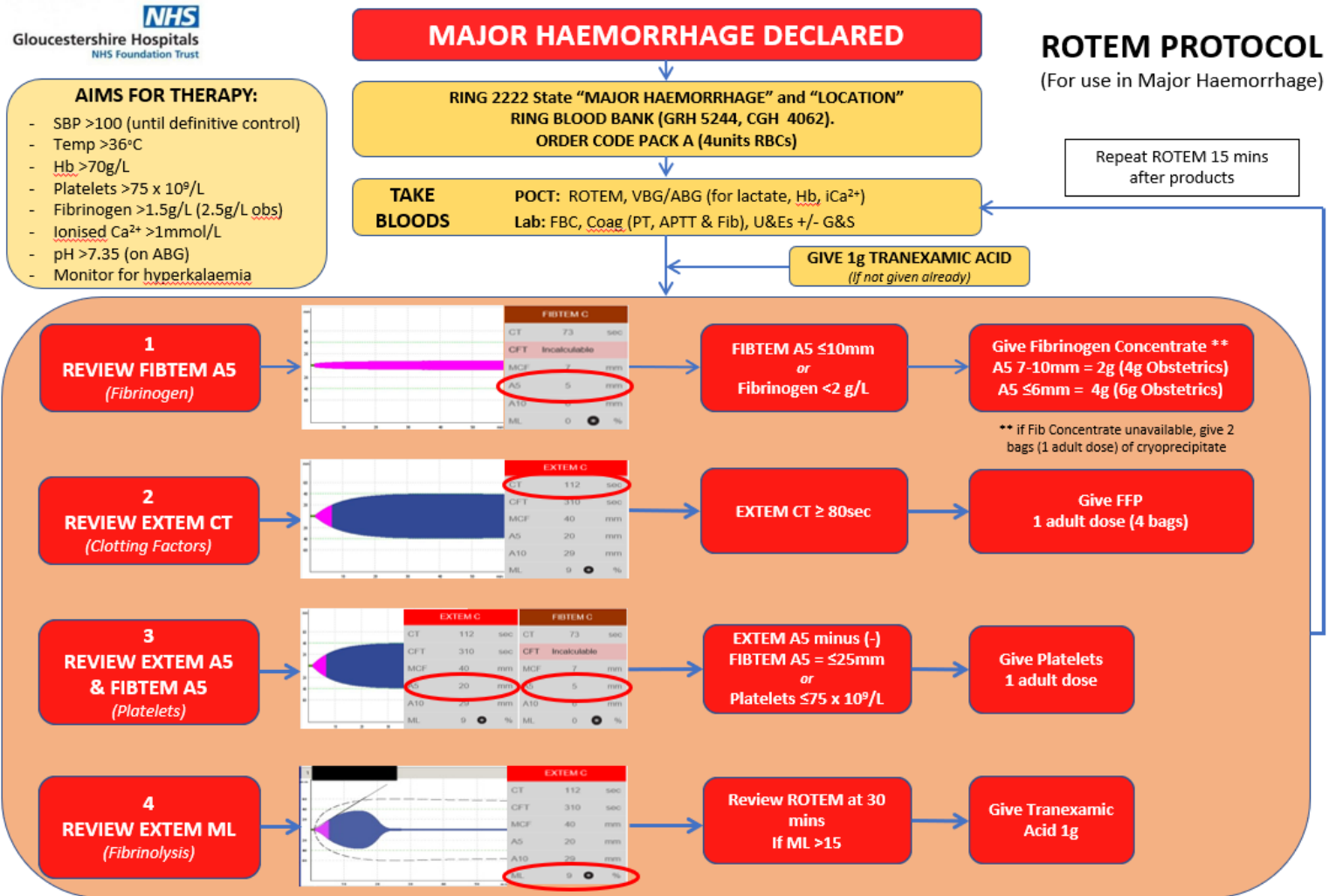
Appendix 2



Appendix 3 Paediatric Major Haemorrhage Protocol < 40 Kg



Appendix 4



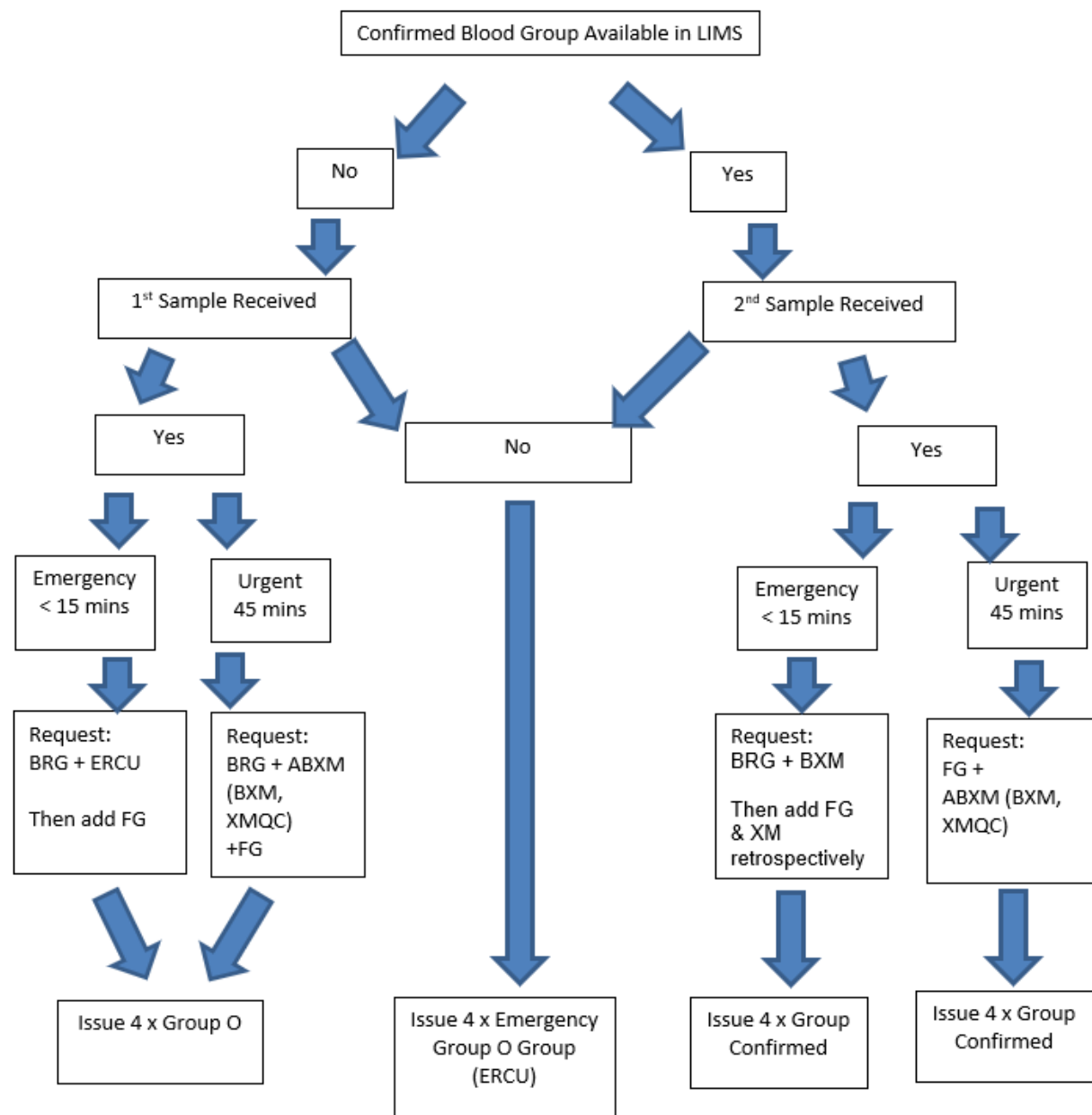
GHT ROTEM algorithm June 2023

If any further Haematological advice needed, contact Consultant Haematologist via switchboard
Refer to GHNHSFT Anticoagulant reversal guidelines if the patient is on any Anticoagulant

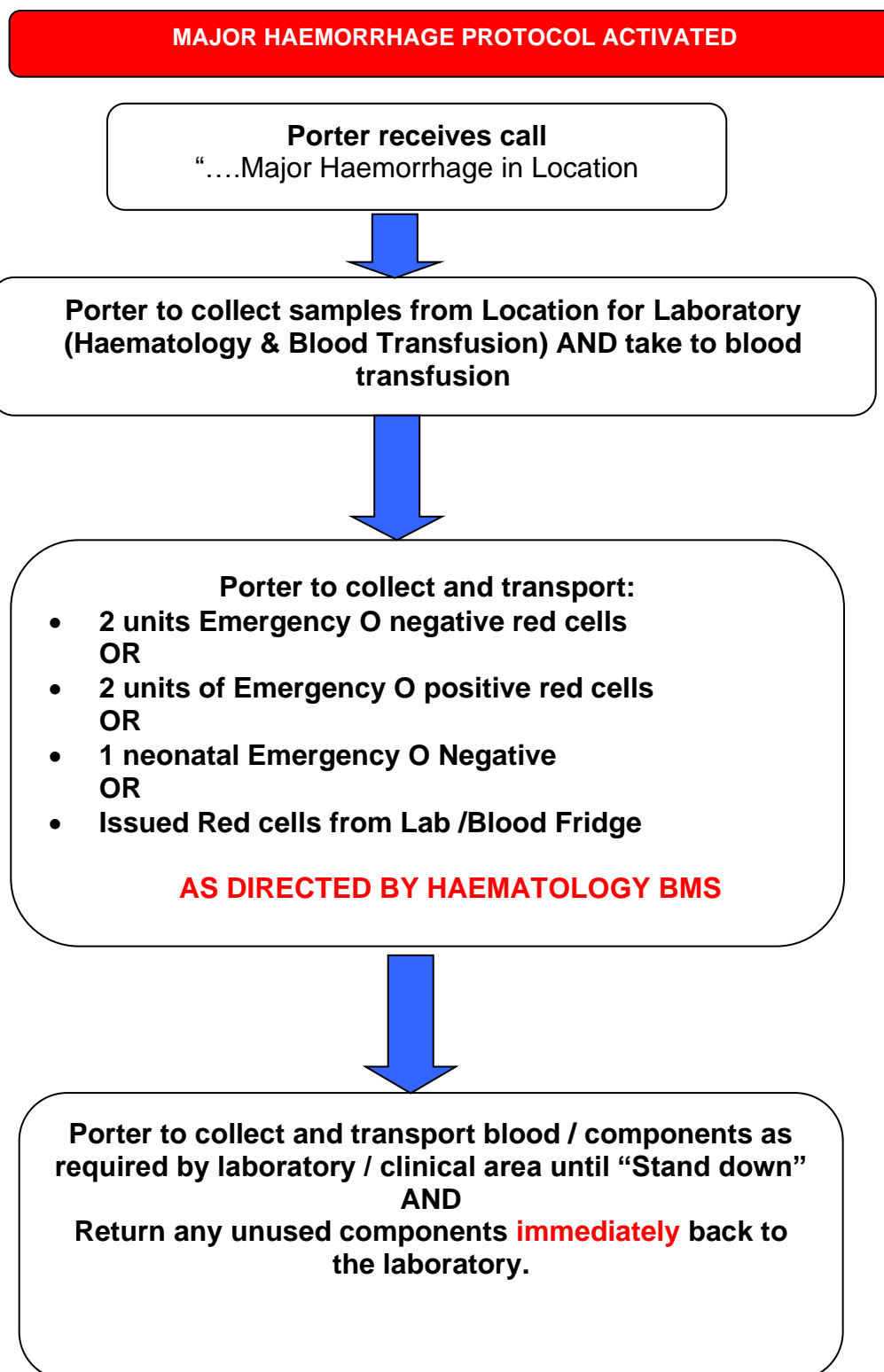
Adapted for use at GHNHSFT from
OBSCYMRU ROTEM Protocol

Appendix 5

Request for Emergency Issue of Blood



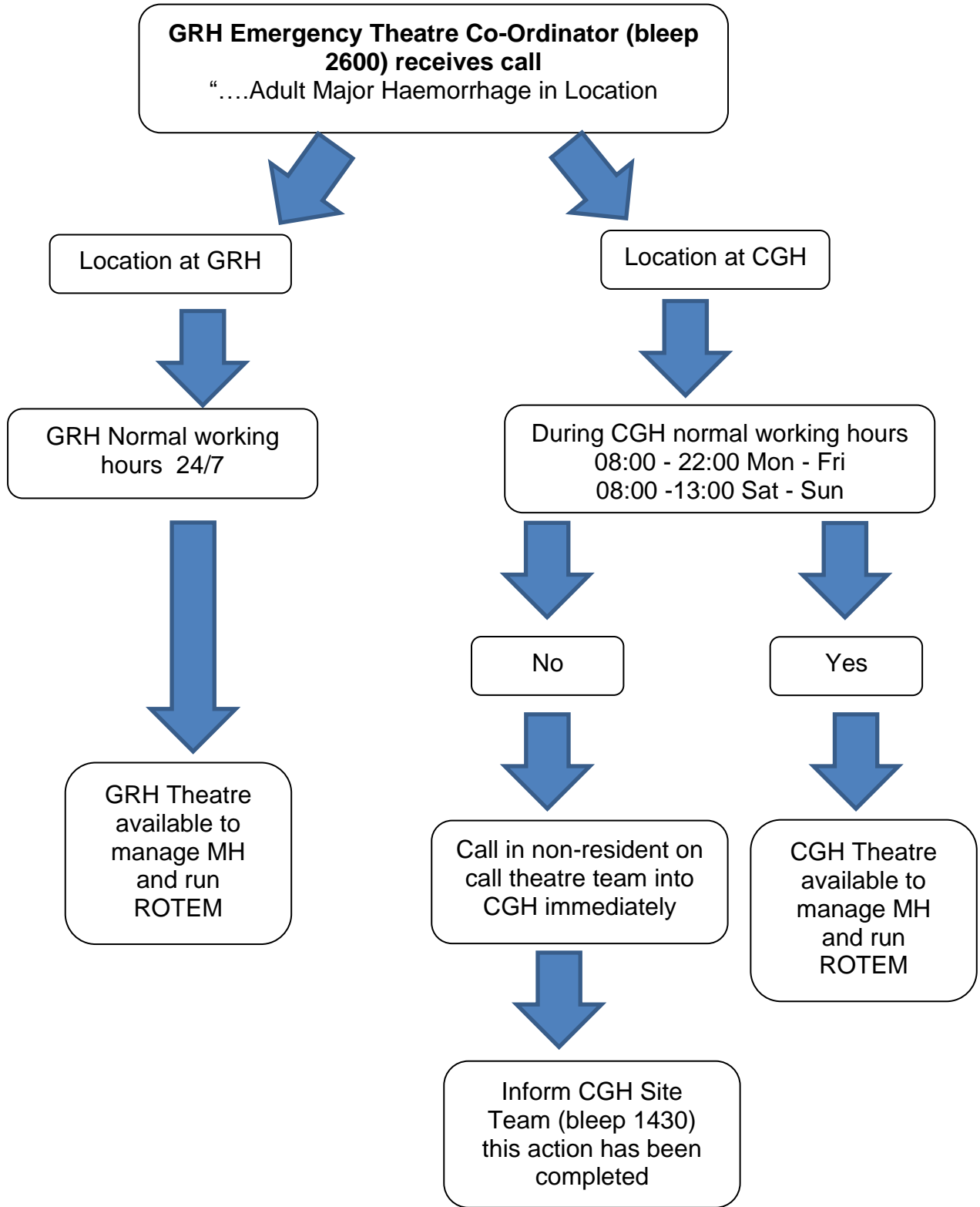
Porters Action on Receipt of Haemorrhage Call



Appendix 7

GRH Emergency Theatre Co-Ordinator Action Card

ADULT MAJOR HAEMORRHAGE PROTOCOL ACTIVATED



Appendix 8

CGH ACRT and Site Team Action Card

ADULT MAJOR HAEMORRHAGE PROTOCOL ACTIVATED

