This Protocol only facilitates the rapid supply of blood components & rapid transport of blood samples.

Make an additional call if an emergency clinical team is required e.g. Cardiac Arrest/ Medical Emergency or Obstetric Emergency call.

One person should act as Team Leader during the Major Haemorrhage and should nominate a member of the team to communicate with Blood Bank.

To trigger the Major Haemorrhage Protocol (MHP)

Phone 2222 and state that there is a Major Haemorrhage & the patient location. Remain on the line while switchboard transfers your call to the Blood Bank.

Tell Blood Bank:
- Diagnosis e.g. ruptured aortic aneurysm, obstetric emergency
- Patient’s details - name, DOB, CHI number (A&E or 700 number for unidentified patient)
- Blood components required e.g. red cells, FFP, platelets and how many units (clinical areas e.g. obstetrics, A&E may have their own local policies on recommended component requests during a Major Haemorrhage)
- How urgently the blood components are required (state explicit timescale)
- The patient’s current location and planned moves
- Your name and contact details
- Samples to be sent to Blood Bank/Haematology and if they are ready for collection by the Major Haemorrhage Porter (Blood Bank will inform you whether a sample for blood grouping is required).

Send the following blood samples with the Major Haemorrhage Porter (NOT pod system):
- a sample for blood grouping to the Blood Bank (unless Blood Bank already have one)
- FBC and coagulation screen samples to Haematology

A dedicated Major Haemorrhage Porter will report to Blood Bank and will be contactable via Blood Bank to transport blood components or come and collect blood samples. Emergency FBC and coagulation samples will receive priority handling by the Haematology Lab.

If further blood components are required contact Blood Bank directly on the numbers below.

Send further FBC and coagulation screen samples as indicated.
- For sample collection at RIE contact Haematology Lab using the Haematology number below.
- For sample collection at WGH/St John’s contact Blood Bank on the numbers below.

When the Major Haemorrhage is over:
Inform Blood Bank directly. Blood Bank will stand down the Major Haemorrhage Porter and inform the Haematology lab. It will still be possible to ask Blood Bank to issue further blood components if this is considered necessary.

Contact numbers for Blood Bank / Haematology Lab

RIE: Blood Bank - Phone 27501 or 27502. Haematology tests - Bleep (110) 6550
WGH: Phone 31912 or Bleep 8539 (emergency only)
St John’s: Bleep 3729 (or Phone 2222 & ask switchboard to “Fast Bleep” 3729 – emergency only)

O negative blood is kept in Blood Bank at each hospital. At RIE, there is also O neg. in the blood fridges in A&E (4 units) and Obstetric Theatres (2 units). Inform Blood Bank immediately if these units are used so that they can be replaced.

If advice from a haematologist is required contact the on-call haematology doctor via switchboard.
Guidance on the management of Major Haemorrhage is on the Blood Transfusion pages on the Lothian intranet.