

CHAPTER 5
SECTION 2.1

TRANSFUSION SERVICES FOR WHOLE BLOOD, BLOOD COMPONENTS AND BLOOD DERIVATIVES

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I. PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

86920 - 86922, 86077, 86900 - 86906, 86890 - 86891, and also related is 36430, 36440, 36450 - 36460

II. DESCRIPTION

Transfusions are the introductions of either whole blood, and blood components (red cells, platelets, plasma, or leukocytes), or blood derivatives (albumin, gamma globulin, Factors VIII and IX, or Rho (D) immune globulins (RhoGAM), and prothrombin) directly into the bloodstream. Transfusion services are those services necessary to test donor blood and administer transfusions. Transfusion services include equipment, supplies, storage, administration, processing, typing and cross-matching.

III. POLICY

A. Whole blood and blood components are covered when the whole blood and blood components are actually administered to the patient.

B. Transfusion services for whole blood and blood components are covered as supplies or laboratory services for transfusions of both allogeneic and autologous blood when the whole blood or blood components are used by the patient.

C. Blood derivatives, outlined above under Description, which are classified as formulary drugs are covered as prescription drugs.

IV. EXCLUSION

A. Blood typing for paternity testing (CPT codes 86910, 86911) is not covered.

B. Unused whole blood and blood components are not covered.

C. Collection and storage of autologous blood are not covered (no matter where it is collected).

D. The testing of autologous blood not used by the donor is not covered.

E. The testing of autologous blood is not covered.

F. Transfusion services for autologous blood and blood components in the absence of a scheduled covered surgical procedure is not covered.

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