

Does washing blood for transfusion make a difference to preterm babies?

ACTRN12620000530921

Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute
Enrollment	1,214 participants

Plain Language Summary

Very premature babies — those born before 28 weeks of pregnancy — almost always need blood transfusions because their bodies cannot yet produce enough red blood cells on their own. However, standard transfused blood can trigger inflammation in the baby's tiny body, which may contribute to serious complications such as injury to the bowel, lungs, and brain that can have lifelong effects.

This trial is testing whether 'washing' the donated red blood cells before transfusion (to remove storage by-products) reduces this inflammatory response and leads to better health outcomes for these very premature babies. Washed blood is already available from the Red Cross Blood Service, though it costs more and has a shorter shelf life.

Your baby may be eligible if they were born before 28 weeks of gestation and require one or more red blood cell transfusions. Babies who have already received a transfusion, received a fetal transfusion before birth, or have major congenital abnormalities are not eligible for this trial.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (2)

- Infants born born less than 28 weeks' gestation.
- Require one or more red blood cell transfusion

Exclusion (4)

- Infants who have received a fetal transfusion.
- Infants with major congenital or chromosomal abnormalities.
- Infants whose parents have opted out of trial participation.
- Infants who have previously received a red blood cell transfusion

Locations (6 total)

Womens and Childrens Hospital - North Adelaide, QLD,SA,VIC, Australia
Flinders Medical Centre - Bedford Park, QLD,SA,VIC, Australia
The Royal Women's Hospital - Parkville, QLD,SA,VIC, Australia
... and 3 more locations

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12620000530921>

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