

This document provides a summary of the plasma components and plasma products available for transfusion in the UK. It also provides guidance on how to report serious adverse reactions (SAR) and events (SAE) from transfusion of plasma components and plasma products according to the current SHOT reporting criteria i.e., cryoprecipitate, standard fresh frozen plasma (FFP) and solvent-detergent FFP (SD-FFP). In the UK, SD-FFP is currently available as a medicinal product licensed as OctaplasLG®.

Blood components versus blood/plasma-derived products: Donated blood is separated out into its various components where it is manufactured and tested via a blood establishment for patient use. Blood components are defined as a therapeutic constituent of blood such as FFP. Blood products are therapeutic substances derived from human blood and are usually produced commercially and packaged as plasma-derived medicinal products such as prothrombin complex concentrate & SD-FFP.

Specifications and clinical indications	PLASMA COMPONENTS		PLASMA PRODUCTS
	Standard FFP	Cryoprecipitate	OctaplasLG®
Donors per pack	1 donor	1 donor (pack) 5 donors (pool)	< 1520 donors
Storage & shelf-life (frozen)	≤ -25°C; < 3 years	≤ -25°C; < 3 years	≤ -18°C; < 4 years
Storage & shelf-life (thawed)	24 hours if stored at 4°C±2°C (pre-thawed FFP: <120 hours, only for unexpected major haemorrhage)	Room temperature (RT) (NOT refrigerated), must be used < 4hours, once thawed	5 days if stored at 2-8°C or 8 hours if stored at RT
Thawing temperature	33°C-37°C	33°C-37°C	30°C-37°C
Clinical indications (where to find it?)	British Society for Haematology guidelines on the spectrum of fresh frozen plasma and cryoprecipitate products: https://doi.org/10.1111/bjh.15167		

Haemovigilance reporting guidance

To whom should I report these cases?	SHOT	MHRA*
Serious adverse events (SAE) relating to FFP transfusion?	Yes	Yes (if laboratory or BE [▽] error)
Serious adverse reactions (SAR) relating to FFP transfusion?	Yes	Yes
SAE relating to cryoprecipitate transfusion?	Yes	Yes (if laboratory or BE [▽] error)
SAR relating to cryoprecipitate transfusion?	Yes	Yes
SAE relating to Octaplas LG® transfusion?	Yes	Yes (via Yellow Card Scheme)
SAR relating to Octaplas LG® transfusion?	Yes	Yes (via Yellow Card Scheme)
Examples of other plasmas products in clinical use		
SAR/SAE relating to fibrinogen concentrate administration?	No	Yes (via Yellow Card Scheme)
SAR or SAE relating to LyoPlas administration?	No	Yes (via Yellow Card Scheme)

ABO compatibility – 1st (best) choice and suitable replacements

Recipient Blood Group ↓	Donor Blood Group											
	Standard FFP				Cryoprecipitate				OctaplasLG®			
	AB	A	B	O	AB	A	B	O	AB	A	B	O
AB	1	2 HT	3 HT	X	1	2 HT	3 HT	X	1	X	X	X
A	3	1	2 HT	X	3	1	2 HT	X	2 E	1	X	X
B	3	2 HT	1	X	3	2 HT	1	X	2 E	X	1	X
O	4	2	3	1	4	2	3	1	2 E	X	X	1

Guide for table interpretation

1: 1st and best choice for transfusion

2/3: 2nd and 3rd choices for transfusion as compatible ABO. Use if 1st choice not available or for stock management

HT: Suitable to transfuse if anti-A/B high-titre is negative. This is displayed on the blood component label

E: Should only be used in emergency if no better suitable component is available

Table reflects current relevant guidance at the time of publication

To ensure safe transfusion, use the PAUSE checklist (shotuk.org, under current resources)



Patient identification: Are all the details correct and match on sample/request/label/LIMS?

Authorised: Have all required tests been completed and authorised?

Unit number: Does the number on the unit match the number on the compatibility label?

Selection of plasma component: Is the plasma component that was requested? Is ABO compatible with the patient? Is the plasma component completely thawed before issued? Does it require HT neg?

Post-thawed expiry: Is the post-thawed expiry date/time clearly recorded and visible to the clinical team? Will the plasma component expire before date/time required?

**PAUSE checklist adapted for plasma components only*

Be vigilant!



Plasma components may look similar, but they have different specifications and are intended for different clinical conditions

Also, some blood products as OctaplasLG® look identical to plasma components

Stop, check, confirm!
Ensure safe and correct plasma transfusions every time, every transfusion

Recommended Resources

- Spectrum of fresh frozen plasma and cryoprecipitate products (doi:[10.1111/bjh.15167](https://doi.org/10.1111/bjh.15167))
- Octapharma (<https://www.octapharma.co.uk/>)
- The Blood Safety and Quality Regulations 2005 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2005/50/made>)
- To access MHRA reporting portal: <https://aic.mhra.gov.uk/mda/sabresystem.nsf/Login?Open>
- To access MHRA Yellow Card Scheme: <https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

