5.7 Blood Transfusion Procedure for Patients in the Operating Room and Recovery Room Only.

A. This procedure is written only for patients in the operating room and recovery room receiving blood products when a more rapid blood transfusion is desirable. This procedure only applies to those patients who have a Y-set transfusion set up and should be performed under the supervision of an anesthesiologist or anesthetist.

1. Close all clamps in the leads and administration tubing.
2. Aseptically insert the spike of one lead into the container of normal saline (other types of solution are not acceptable).
3. Open the clamps on the two leads and on the administration tubing in such a way that normal saline flows into the drip chamber and filter chamber and enters the blood lead up to the spike.
4. Check that there are no air bubbles.
5. Close the clamp on the administration tubing.
6. Place the blood bag below the level of the normal saline, open the clamp on the blood lead and allow the appropriate amount of normal saline (usually 50-100ml) to enter the blood bag. Close the normal saline lead.
7. Close the clamp on the blood lead. Gently mix the normal saline and red cells. Hang the blood bag next to the normal saline container.
8. Open the blood lead and then the administration tubing.
9. Adjust the rate of infusion as desired.

NOTE:  
A. Adding normal saline into the blood bag by any other means than mentioned above is not acceptable.
B. Only sterile normal saline can be used as the diluting solution, other types of solution are not acceptable.
C. No medication is allowed to enter the blood bag.