Transfusion Consent Update

To: UCSF Providers and Nursing Staff

From: Susan Penney, JD and Hildy Schell-Chaple, RN, CNS

Re: Updated UCSF Medical Center Policy: Transfusion Information Form and Consent to Blood Transfusion (Policy 6.02.04 –August 2014)

Please note the following key points and clarifications regarding consent for blood transfusion requirements and consent forms.

I. California law requires that UCSF Medical Center provide patients or their surrogates with information about transfusion options prior to a medical or surgical procedure for which there is a reasonable possibility that transfusion of blood products may be necessary. This should be given to patient/surrogate by provider (e.g. MD, NP) obtaining informed consent.

II. FORMS: There are 2 available consent forms related to blood transfusion.

1) “Transfusion Information Form and Consent to Blood Transfusion” (Form # MZ 1912Z –English, Russian, Chinese, Spanish available).
   i. This form is indicated for use when informed consent is obtained for transfusion that is not related to surgery or other therapeutic/diagnostic procedures.
   ii. This consent is valid for the duration of the patient’s hospital admission, unless consent is withdrawn by the patient or surrogate. Outpatient setting: this consent is valid for one year when outpatients require ongoing transfusion therapy.
   iii. This form has the tear-away Transfusion Information Form that is provided to patients or surrogates when informed consent is obtained.

2) “Authorization for surgery, special diagnostic or therapeutic procedure, blood transfusion and administration of anesthetics” (Form #500-06160A&B (2 pages) - English, Russian, Chinese, Spanish available)
   i. This form is indicated for use when informed consent for a surgical or other therapeutic/diagnostic procedure that may require blood transfusion is obtained. **This is a valid consent form for transfusion when the procedure is identified as “blood transfusion” on page 1 (section 1) of the 2 page consent form.**
   ii. The consent for blood transfusion is valid for the duration of the patient’s hospital admission, unless consent is withdrawn by the patient or surrogate.
   iii. To meet the requirement of providing a copy of transfusion information to the patient or surrogate when informed consent is obtained, give a copy of “A Patient’s Guide to Blood Transfusions” to the patient or surrogate. (Your Health Matters form #SDGEN0110-rev 3/13. Order from Documents Media Mail http://campuslifeservices.ucsf.edu/clsforms/documentsmedia/PatientEd )

III. Special circumstances when informed consent may not be required include: emergency exception, court-ordered transfusion, and patient lacks capacity and no surrogate available.

   1) After the emergency or medical condition prohibiting informed consent process or the patient’s surrogate becomes available, the informed consent for blood transfusion should be documented on the appropriate transfusion consent form and transfusion information form given to patient or surrogate prior to subsequent transfusions.

IV. **Department and Unit Managers:** Please ensure that you stock the consent forms appropriate for your patient populations in your units/departments. If the “Authorization for surgery...” consent form is stocked, please order the Your Health Matters form above and stock for providers to give to patients/surrogates when they use that form and obtain transfusion consent.