

# What is BLOODSTAR?

BloodSTAR (Blood System for Tracking Authorisations and Reviews) is the national online system introduced in 2016 by the National Blood Authority (NBA). The system was developed on behalf of all Australian Governments to support health providers in managing their Immunoglobulin (Ig) Governance obligations as set out in the *National Policy: Access to Government Funded Immunoglobulin Products in Australia* (the *National Policy*).

BloodSTAR standardises and manages access to the supply of immunoglobulin products for the treatment of conditions identified in the *Criteria for the clinical use of immunoglobulin in Australia* (the *Criteria*), funded by all governments through the national blood arrangements.

## Why has BloodSTAR been developed?

BloodSTAR is a key element of the national Ig Governance Program which is managed by the NBA and key partners on behalf of all Australian governments. Governments' objectives for this program are to:

- ◆ ensure appropriate and cost effective use of publicly funded Ig products
- ◆ ensure that access to Ig products is consistent with the *Criteria*, and
- ◆ improve the capture of information on use and outcomes of Ig products to inform future decision making.

## What are the key benefits of BloodSTAR?

The key benefits of BloodSTAR are expected to be:

- ◆ ensuring the consistency of processes and application of the *Criteria* so that Ig products are directed, based on best evidence and clinical opinion, to patients who are likely to benefit and for whom there are no safe and effective alternative treatments
- ◆ consistently promoting the clinical review of ongoing patients, and consideration of alternative therapies, where appropriate as identified in the *Criteria*
- ◆ support for patients across multiple sites
- ◆ better flexibility for managing mobile or remote patients
- ◆ generation of information for:
  - supply planning and management
  - supply risk management
  - process and system governance and improvement
  - potential linkage with research, and
  - further development of the *Criteria* to ensure Ig is directed to where there is evidence of greatest benefit.

## Who uses BloodSTAR?

BloodSTAR key user groups are:

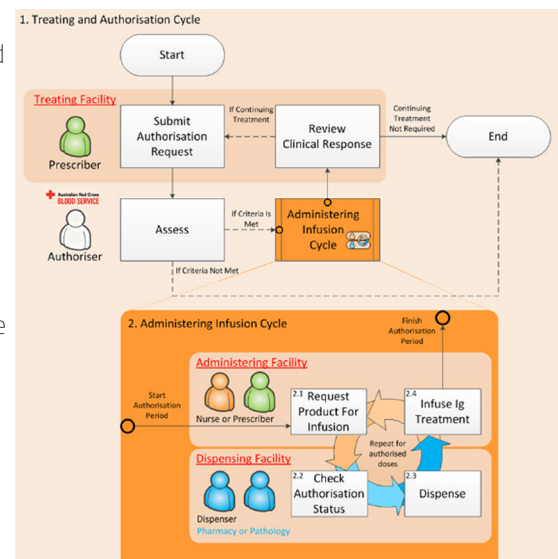
**Prescribers** – In the course of managing patient treatment, medical officers use BloodSTAR at the point of requesting authorisation for access to government funded Ig products in line with the *Criteria*, by providing information about a patient's clinical condition and review outcomes.

**Authorisers** – The Transfusion Medicine Specialist Team at the Australian Red Cross Blood Service are responsible for authorising access to government funded immunoglobulin products in line with the *Criteria*, and use BloodSTAR to review requests and record the assessment outcome.

**Nurses/Midwives** – In the course of managing patient treatment, nurses and midwives can use BloodSTAR to confirm a patient's authorisation status, request the dispense of product and coordinate with patient's infusion appointments to ensure the correct product is dispensed.

**Dispensers** – In the course of managing inventory, BloodSTAR interacts with BloodNet to help dispensers with ordering and dispensing of the correct product to authorised patients.

NSW public health users should contact the NSW Ministry of Health for information on how to register. All other users who want to access BloodSTAR will need to apply for access to the system through the NBA's BloodPortal at [www.portal.blood.gov.au](http://www.portal.blood.gov.au).



## For more information?

National Blood Authority: [www.blood.gov.au](http://www.blood.gov.au)

Immunoglobulin Governance: [www.blood.gov.au/ig-program](http://www.blood.gov.au/ig-program)

BloodSTAR: [www.blood.gov.au/bloodstar](http://www.blood.gov.au/bloodstar)

BloodSTAR Support Materials: [www.blood.gov.au/bloodstar-support-materials](http://www.blood.gov.au/bloodstar-support-materials)

call 13 000 BLOOD (13 000 25663) or email [support@blood.gov.au](mailto:support@blood.gov.au)