For Patients who refuse blood transfusion for religious or other reasons

Patients who refuse blood transfusion because of religious or other reasons will be managed as follows:

1. At our hospital, unnecessary blood transfusions are not administered.

2. When treatment is undertaken using only alternatives to blood transfusion, medical procedures will be limited to those with an acceptably low level of risk. In such cases, we will explain that there is a possibility of unforeseen complications.

3. For minors, unconscious patients, or patients without decision-making capacity requiring emergency transfusion, the decision to administer blood transfusion will be made in accordance with medical necessity. In addition, a guardian's refusal to permit a child to receive medically necessary treatment, including blood transfusion deemed necessary by a physician, may be considered psychological abuse. (Refer to the notice issued by the director of the Children and Families Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare: "Response to cases suspected of medical neglect due to religious beliefs, etc.")

4. Although every effort will be made to manage the patient without a blood transfusion, if an urgent transfusion becomes necessary, the need for the transfusion will be explained to the patient or their representative, and consent will be obtained.

5. In cases where a physician judges that essential medical treatment cannot be safely provided without a blood transfusion, and consent for transfusion cannot be obtained from the patient or their representative, the patient will be referred to an alternative medical facility.