APPENDIX E – Acknowledgement of Parents’ Refusal to Permit Blood Transfusion

POLICY

A parent or substitute decision maker (SDM) wishing to withhold blood or blood products from their child in treatment at C&W will be advised by the attending physician of the risks of withholding this treatment, and the responsibilities that the physician has in ensuring that essential medical care is provided to the child when necessary. The “Refusal to Consent for Transfusion of Blood and/or Blood Products” form will be signed by the parent (or the SDM) and by a witness to the signature. The most responsible physician will also sign the “Refusal to Consent” form indicating that the discussion related to Informed Consent has taken place.

The “Refusal to Consent for Transfusion of Blood Products” form will be a permanent part of the chart.

PROCEDURE

1. A physician who is aware that a parent/guardian is against the use of blood products in the treatment of their child should advise the parent/guardian of his/her responsibilities before the child is admitted to C&W. If, after discussion with the parent/guardian, this resistance is still apparent, the physician should consider his/her responsibilities under the Child, Family and Community Service Act (Section 29) and consult with the Social Work Department. The Ministry of Children and Family Development may need to be notified. The physician will have the parent (or SDM) sign the “Refusal to Consent for Transfusion of Blood and Blood Products” form.

2. If, on admission or registration at the Admitting Desk, or at anytime during the admission, the parent (or SDM) wishes to withhold blood or blood products, he/she should be immediately referred to the attending physician. The attending physician should proceed as in #1.

DOCUMENTATION

“Refusal to Consent for Transfusion of Blood and /or Blood Products (form #94238)

REFERENCES

Child, Family and Community Services Act (section 29)
AP0300 – Child Protection Policy

Effective Date: March 23, 1999
Revised Date: April 5, 2001
Reviewed Date: June 17, 2004 with minor revisions