

When would a baby need a blood transfusion?

“Babies need a blood transfusion in the newborn intensive care unit when they get Anemic. They need this blood to carry oxygen to their body and to their brain so it can grow and develop. They are born with a set amount of red blood cells that we then sample to do routine testing and so the total blood cells go down over time, and they are not equipped when they're born prematurely to increase that red cell volume on their own. So, they will need a transfusion to make sure that they have enough red blood cells to carry oxygen to their body.”