



Matchday Operations Manual

C2.1 Blood Bin Procedure

The following procedure will apply in all cases where a Player is bleeding on his person, clothing or equipment has been contaminated by blood.

- If the Referee notices a bleeding or blood contaminated Player he will immediately stop play and call 'time-out' and signal to the Physio to attend to the Player.
- The Physio will immediately enter the field of play to assess whether the Player can be quickly treated on the field or whether he will require treatment off the field.
- If the Physio advises that the Player can be treated on the field, the Referee will instruct the Player to drop out behind play for that purpose and the Match will immediately recommence.
- If the Physio advises the Referee that he/she will have to treat the Player off the field, the Match will not restart until the Player has left the field. The Player may be interchanged, or alternatively the team can elect to temporarily play on with 12 players. (Note: other than for the initial assessment, the Match will not be held up while the bleeding Player receives treatment or is interchanged).
- If the Physio notices a player who needs to be treated, and they cannot get the attention of the Referee, the Physio should remove the bleeding player from the field of play.
- If the Referee stops play twice for the same Player and the same wound, the Player must be taken from the field for treatment and either interchanged or the team may elect to play on with 12 players until the bleeding Player returns.
- If a bleeding player has left the field for treatment and is not interchanged, he may return to the field of play at any time provided he does so from an on-side position. If the bleeding Player has been interchanged, he may only return to the field through the interchange official as a normal interchange player.
- A Player does not need to wait for a Physio or the Referee to advise him to leave the field; if he is bleeding then he needs to take responsibility and seek immediate treatment.
- A bleeding player returning to the field of play who has not been interchanged, is not to be regarded as a replacement/interchange player and therefore may take a kick for goal. Conversely, a bleeding player returning to the field of play who has been interchanged may not take a kick for goal at that time.

NB The above provisions should be read in conjunction with the concussion rules. Where a player who is bleeding is suspected to be concussed, the rules on concussion shall take precedence.