

**38FM.5 INVESTIGATION AND TREATMENT OF MEDICAL OR CHRONIC ANAEMIA IN ADULTS**

See [flow chart](#) on the following page

See also:

[Guideline 222 Adult and Paediatrics Injectables Guide](#)

[Guideline 802FM Iron Deficiency Anaemia in Adults](#)

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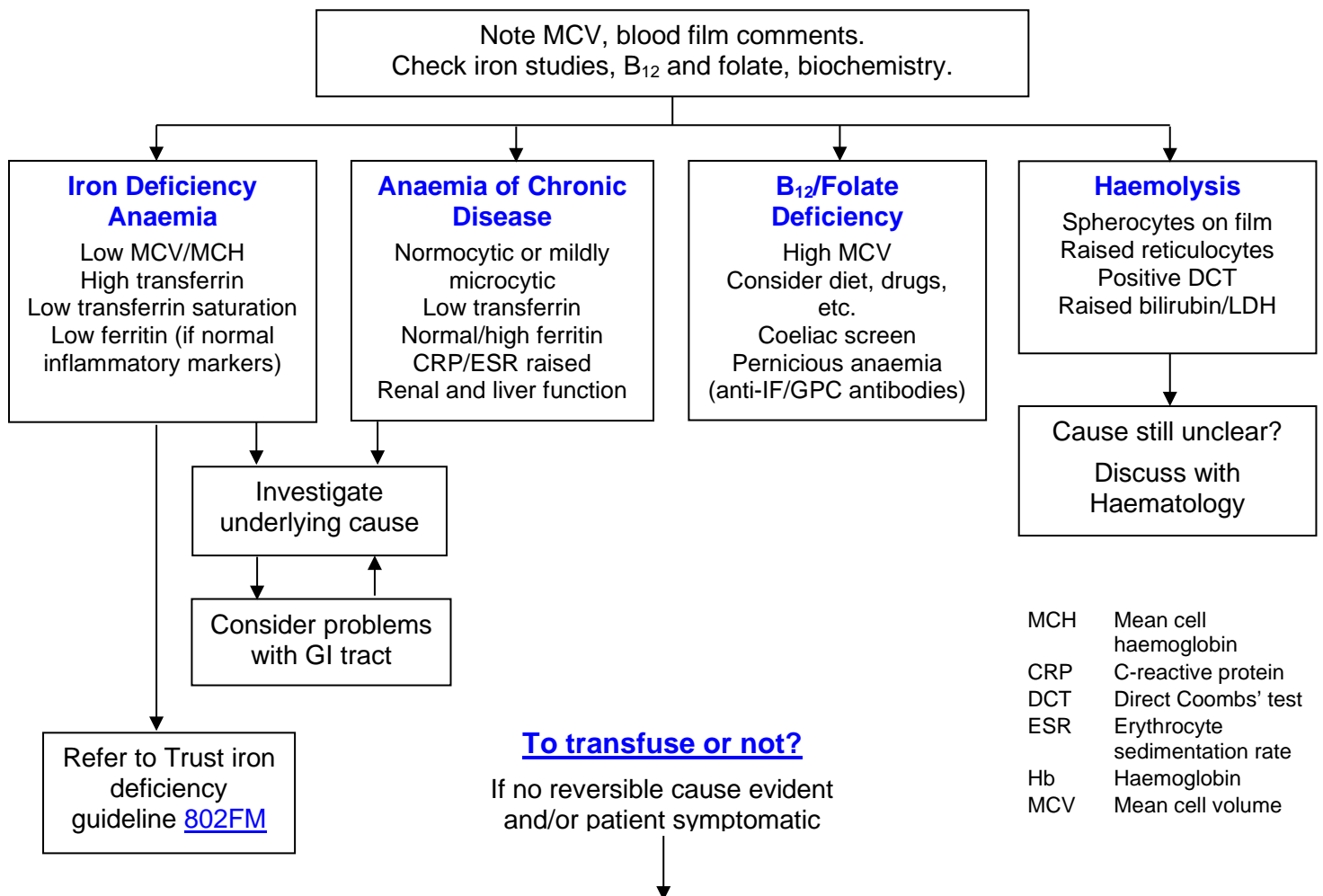
## Investigation and Treatment of Medical or Chronic Anaemia in Adults

Medical anaemia accounts for a lot of transfusions, some of which may be unnecessary. This guideline will help decide whether a transfusion is the most appropriate treatment.

**N.B.** The advice here does **NOT** apply to children, pregnant women, haematology and oncology patients and those:

- Who are actively bleeding
- With renal disease
- With alcoholic liver disease

### Investigations for all patients with Hb <100 g/l in whom transfusion is considered (N.B. take samples *before* the transfusion commences)



MCH	Mean cell haemoglobin
CRP	C-reactive protein
DCT	Direct Coombs' test
ESR	Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
Hb	Haemoglobin
MCV	Mean cell volume