Peri-operative Safety Journey in Blood Transfusion
Fung MY
Operating Theatre, Princess Margaret Hospital

Keywords:
peri-operative blood transfusion

Introduction
Being one of the trauma centres in Hong Kong, the perioperative nurse in Princess Margaret Hospital have to perform blood administration for patient undergoing emergency or elective operations all the times. Effective and safe blood transfusion is highly expected. As the accreditation program is launching, it is high time to make a safety checking of system, process and outcome on the blood transfusion issue in my department.

Objectives
- to review the existing policy and revise the departmental guideline
- to ensure a safe transportation and security in storage of blood
- to empower the clinical operating room nurses for correct patient identification in blood transfusion

Methodology
1. Web site searching for updated existing policy and related recommendations, make appropriate change to the departmental standards of practice on blood administration.
2. Maintain an alarm system for safe storage of blood product.
3. Regular audit on staff knowledge on blood issuing procedure from satellite blood fridge in operating theatre.
4. Regular audit on blood administration procedure including the use of 2-dimensional barcode scanning technology for patient identification.
5. Conduct staff training session.
6. Maintain a reporting system and work out for the contingency plan.

Result
The departmental standard on caring the patient for blood transfusion was revised. Audit indicated 100% compliance rate for staff's knowledge assessment. Positive feedback with open discussion on clinical problem of blood transfusion was resulted. The maintenance of satellite blood fridge was carried out by daily alarm functional testing and temperature recording. As a whole, we do not have blood transfusion related error reported. Conclusion: The safe management of blood transfusion must remain a high priority to prevent serious adverse events happen. Advance technology and regular auditing can help the perioperative nurses to remain alert in the blood administration procedure.