

A retrospective analysis of blood product use within the Victorian Adult Burn Service

Storm Holwill¹, Eugene Lai¹, Cheng Lo²

1 Monash University Clayton Campus, Wellington Road, Clayton, VIC 3800, shol32@student.monash.edu

2 Victorian Adult Burn Service, Alfred Hospital, 55 Commercial Rd, Prahran, VIC 3004, c_lo2@yahoo.com

Significant burn injury often results in comorbid anaemia and coagulation abnormalities. Not uncommonly, blood product transfusions are used to maintain hemodynamic stability in these patients; however there is currently no consensus with regards to appropriate transfusion triggers. A retrospective single-institution cohort analysis of blood transfusion use in burns patients admitted to the Victorian Adult Burns Service (VABS) has been undertaken. Analysis of patients admitted from 2011 to 2014 includes demographic information, blood product usage practices, associated clinical outcomes and complications. Of patients requiring surgical debridement, approximately 15% received at least one blood product transfusion. The majority of these patients had a total body surface area (TBSA) injury of greater than 15%, and around 50% of transfusions occurred perioperatively. The aim of this study is to evaluate current trends in blood product use within our burns service, with view to developing protocols for clinical guidance and monitoring of unit performance.

Key Words

Blood product

Blood transfusion

Transfusion trigger

Blood loss

Burns management

Anaemia in burn patients