The Value of a Blood Management Program

The absence of an evidence-based transfusion process consistent with published guidelines creates unnecessary transfusions, with possible patient risk and avoidable costs. The MVRBC Blood Management program assists the hospital to create and implement clinically validated transfusion processes in accordance with current clinical guidelines for the transfusion of red cells. Processes must be user-friendly, have clinical decision support available and result in data that can be easily measured for ongoing monitoring. Adherence to accepted clinical guidelines for red cell transfusion has been shown to reduce the incidence of RBC transfusions (transfusions/discharge), which in turn reduces patient risk and costs.

MVRBC: The hospital’s partner for Blood Management

MVRBC provides Blood Management consultative services to assist its full service hospitals at no cost. Our team is comprised of experienced professionals who collect and analyze your transfusion related data to develop individualized, specific recommendations for reducing unnecessary blood use. Ongoing support facilitates the attainment of program goals and development of the hospital’s own sustainable blood management program.

Components of the program

The Blood Management program begins with a comprehensive review of current transfusion-related practices in place at the facility. Designed to identify opportunities and performance gaps as compared with accepted best practice guidelines, the review will look at the following areas:

- RBC transfusion utilization patterns, trends, analysis
- Blood product ordering processes
- Transfusion-related nursing processes
- Transfusion-related laboratory processes
- Oversight of transfusion utilization
- Transfusion reaction management
- Quality processes related to transfusion
- Comparison to national & local/regional benchmarks

Recommendations and process improvement

Following completion of our review, details of the analysis and recommendations are presented to hospital leadership. As opportunities for improvement and performance indicators are selected for implementation at the hospital, the MVRBC support team is ready to assist. Ongoing, the Blood Center will support the hospital program with resources for data analysis, access to current clinical literature, professional staff education programs and a state of the art transfusion software system designed to help hospitals better track and trend blood use.

Sustaining success

Once the initial data review, analysis and presentation are complete, long-term success is achieved through monitoring, periodic review and adjustment of selected processes. MVRBC will continue to support through ready access to the most current clinical studies, networking opportunities and ongoing professional consultation.

For more information please contact Adam Wennmacher at (563)823-4219 or at bloodcenter.org