



Preventing infections with Transfusions (Health care provider)

Preventing Infections during Transfusions

Blood transfusion is a procedure where blood or parts of blood are passed into the patient's bloodstream through veins. This blood comes from donors and is kept in blood banks to give patients who are injured, having surgery or have specific medical issues. However, there is a risk of infections during this process, so it is essential to be very cautious during transfusions.

Here are some measures to minimize the possibility of transmission of infectious diseases:

- **Conducting donor screening:** One of the primary steps is to screen potential blood donors thoroughly. It is done to check any symptoms associated with infectious diseases.
- Testing blood for infectious diseases: Blood banks perform extensive testing on donated blood to detect the presence of infectious agents like HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), hepatitis B and C, syphilis, and others.
- Adding germ inactivation technologies: Some blood banks employ germ inactivation technologies to further enhance safety. It removes germs while maintaining the therapeutic properties of the blood components.
- Maintain quality control and regulation: Blood banks adhere to strict quality control measures by maintaining proper storage conditions and monitoring the entire process of collection, testing, processing, and distribution of blood components.
- **Conducting proper surveillance**: Regular monitoring and surveillance of blood for checking emerging infections or changes in disease patterns are crucial.
- **Practicing Patient-Specific Transfusion:** It is essential to consider individual patient needs when prescribing blood transfusions.

To know more:

- <u>Prevention of transfusion-transmitted infections</u>
- Post Surgical wound care
- <u>Controlling Infection with hand hygiene</u>

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