

Self-Assessment Test

Improving Patient Care in the Hospital Setting: Applying Current Therapeutic Trends and Clinical Evidence to Transfusion Protocols



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1. All of the following are examples of critical bleeding EXCEPT:
 - a. Sudden onset of bleeding at a rate >150 mL/min.
 - b. Acute blood loss of one unit per hour.
 - c. Bleeding into or around the brain.
 - d. Bleeding into or around the spinal cord.

2. Transfusion decisions can be made based only on laboratory values.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. For each unit of **platelet pheresis** transfused to a 70-kg non-bleeding adult patient, the expected rise in the platelet count is:
 - a. 300-500/ microliter
 - b. 1000-2000/ microliter
 - c. 3000-5000/ microliter
 - d. 10000-20000/ microliter
 - e. 30000-40000/ microliter

4. Which of the following is NOT correct regarding platelet products and their transfusion?
 - a. Each platelet concentrate bag contains ~ 400 billion platelets.
 - b. Each platelet pheresis bag is routinely cultured for bacterial contamination
 - c. The trend in the United States is to use platelet pheresis products rather than platelet concentrates.
 - d. If possible, a platelet count should routinely be obtained before and ½ -2 hours after the transfusion of platelets.
 - e. The trigger for administering platelet transfusions is generally higher for patients who are actively bleeding than for patients with a risk of bleeding but who are not doing so.

5. Hypothermia does not affect coagulation factor activity.
 - a. True
 - b. False



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6. Which of the following statements is correct?
 - a. After thawing, plasma can be used for up to 30 days.
 - b. After thawing, plasma can be used for up to 5 days.
 - c. Blood products can safely be thawed in the microwave on low power.
 - d. Blood products can safely be thawed in hot, but not boiling, water.

7. All of the following are characteristics of TRALI (Transfusion-Related Acute Lung Injury) EXCEPT:
 - a. Non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema
 - b. Bilateral, fluffy infiltrates on chest x-ray
 - c. Occurs within a week of a transfusion
 - d. Respiratory distress

8. Bacterial contamination of platelets, is generally caused by Gram positive organisms.
 - a. True
 - b. False

9. Which of the following anticoagulants is paired with the appropriate reversal agent(s)?
 - a. Unfractionated heparin: rFVIIa
 - b. Warfarin: vitamin B12 + FFP
 - c. Unfractionated heparin: protamine
 - d. Warfarin: protamine

10. Topical hemostatis therapies are used intra-operatively to:
 - a. Allow for stronger clot formation at tissue sites of bleeding and therefore lessen bleeding.
 - b. Allow for less clot formation at arterial sites of bleeding and therefore increase bleeding.
 - c. Allow for stronger clot formation only when there is an error in surgical technique.
 - d. Lessen bleeding due to any cause.

11. Protamine is effective for PARTIAL reversal of which of the following therapies?
 - a. Warfarin
 - b. Vitamin K
 - c. Low molecular weight heparin (LMWH)
 - d. DDAVP



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12. Which blood product contains the factors which are deficient in warfarin-treated patients (prothrombin, factors VII, IX, X)?
 - a. Fresh frozen plasma (FFP)
 - b. Red blood cells (RBC)
 - c. Prothrombin complex concentrates (PCC)
 - d. Platelets

13. Dosing of erythropoiesis stimulating agents (epoetin alfa or darbepoetin) to target hemoglobin levels above 12 g/dL have been associated with increased complications/risks.
 - a. True
 - b. False

14. The use of a hemoglobin of 7 g/dL instead of 10 g/dL as a trigger (threshold) for transfusion in critically ill patients does not compromise patient care.
 - a. True
 - b. False

15. In which of the following disease states does transfusion increase the mortality rate?
 - a. Pneumonia
 - b. Sepsis
 - c. Acute coronary syndrome
 - d. Acute respiratory distress syndrome

16. Implementing a transfusion protocol has been shown to:
 - a. Reduce the number of RBCs prescribed.
 - b. Reduce the number of laboratory tests ordered.
 - c. Reduce the incidence of acute renal failure.
 - d. Both responses a and b are correct.

17. The 10/30 rule of administering RBCs is based on randomized clinical trials.
 - a. True
 - b. False

18. The pre-transfusion hemoglobin in both the ABC and CRIT trials was approximately:
 - a. 6.5
 - b. 7.5
 - c. 8.5
 - d. 9.5
 - e. 10.5



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19. From the ABC trial, the total amount of blood loss from phlebotomy averaged: approximately
- a. 10 ml.
 - b. 20 ml.
 - c. 30 ml.
 - d. 40 ml.
 - e. 50 ml.
20. CMS has announced it will not reimburse hospitals if there is a blood incompatibility reaction.
- a. True
 - b. False
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