



Critical incident report from the IAKH-Fehlerregister

in cooperation with the DIVI and the CIRSmedical Anästhesiologie of BDA/DGAI and ÄZQ

Report via



IAKH Fehlerregister



CIRSmedical AINS

of BDA/DGAI and ÄZQ

Topic/Title	Jehovah`s Witness membership not detected
Case -ID	CM4918/2010
Case report (approx. as entered)	Patient presents for an elective arthroplasty. He/she misses to mention his membership of Jehovas witnesses in the preanaesthesia clinic. Right before anesthesia induction he tells the anaesthetist that he denies blood transfusion. He/she is then informed about the possibility to receive cell salvage, coagulation concentrates, erythropoietin and perioperative blood management techniques. He accepts all of them as he was informed immediately before undergoing anesthesia.
Problems (here: questions that arise the possibility of problems- there had been no possibility for follow up queries)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients are tense during the preanesthetic evaluation. They forget to mention relevant informats- here the denial of stored blood. • Both the aesthesist and the surgeon are to mention the possibility and risks of allogeneic blood transfusion. If and when they do, the patient will remember his issues with transfusion. • A better preparation prior to planned surgery and blood loss could have been initiated- iron and erythropoietin stimulated increase of red cell mass, ICU capacity, ventilation and cooling facilities..... • In this case, the patient was easy- more frequently the patient wants to be advised by theis religious superiors, family or further third parties. • Medicolegally, the patient is to sleep one night over a decision of important health issues- the information of that importance. We advice against such a short term notice in the OR
Process Step concerned **	None
Circumstances	Routine, OR/ICU-interface, ASA 3, experienced doctor
Good elements ("as reported" or criticism of the CIRS Board)	week day, routine time, doctor in training, ASA III
*Risk of reoccurrence/Likleyhood	2 of 5
*Potential risk for patient damage	2 of 5

<p>Board recommendation (Suggestion of a change of process and/or structural quality by introduction /installation/reeducation of the following measures)</p>	<p>Process quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOP-anesthesia/surgery: Pre-assessment includes the information about blood transfusion • SOP-administration/wards: Spezial markers for identification on beds, charts, patient files that notifies and alarms physician to look for the specific note about the individual acceptance of the blood transfusion alternative (prep. including EPO, cell salvage, ICU, a.s.o.) • SOP-hospital affairs: „Management of Jehovahs Witnesses“ • Hold close contact to the regional Jehovahs Witness community • SOP- organization and preparation of all surgical patients prior to OR transport: (WHO) checklist includes allergies, rare allogeneic antibodies and denial of blood transfusion (Jehovas Witnesses) <p>Struktural quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic networking and common use of one medical history in the patient electronic file, electronic insurance card with the spezial high lighted specialties such as those risks: allergies, rare allogeneic antibodies and denial of blood transfusion
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***Risk Grades:**

<u>Frequency, Risk of reoccurrence</u>		<u>Potential risk for patient damage</u>	
1/5	very rare max 1/100 000	1/5	very little acute injury/no permanent damage
2/5	rare max. 1/10 000	2/5	minor acute injury/slight permanent damage
3/5	medium max. 1/1000	3/5	considerable acute injury/ minor permanent damage
4/5	frequent, min. 1/100 damage	4/5	profound acute injury / considerable permanent damage
5/5	usual/common, min. 1/10	5/5	death/severe permanent damage

****Allocation of errors/near misses in the process of administration of blood or coagulation products**

1. -blood sample withdrawal
2. -blood order
3. -laboratory
4. -handling or storage
5. -blood product release, transportation, or administration
15. -sample/product/patient identification