

Serious Hazards Of Transfusion

SHOT's mission is to improve patient safety in blood transfusion

SHOT is the UK's independent, professionally-led haemovigilance scheme affiliated to the Royal College of Pathologists. Evidence based recommendations are made to improve patient safety in relation to the blood transfusion.

Aims of SHOT

- Improve standards of hospital transfusion practice
- Educate users on transfusion hazards and their prevention
- Aid production of clinical guidelines
- Inform policy within the UK Blood Services
- Inform national policy on transfusion safety within the UK
- Inform Europe about transfusion safety in the UK

Role of SHOT

- Established 1996 as the first such scheme in the world.
- Funded by all four UK blood services.
- Collects and analyses anonymised information on adverse events and reactions related to transfusion of blood components and the administration of Anti-D immunoglobulin.
- Publishes the Annual SHOT Report and Summary, which include recommendations for improving practice.
- Holds an educational Annual SHOTSymposium in July each year to launch the report.
- Monitors the implementation and effectiveness of recommendations.

What you can do to improve patient safety in blood transfusion

- Use the bespoke educational resources on the SHOT website or request an educational presentation to be given by SHOT staff at www.shotuk.org.
- Familiarise yourself with SHOT categories and definitions and be vigilant to identify adverse events and reactions.
- Ensure all adverse events and reactions are reported to SHOT via your Hospital Transfusion Team.
- Implement SHOT recommendations within your field of healthcare where appropriate.
- Participate in competency training and further education related to blood transfusion.
- Investigate areas of transfusion practice in your field and present a poster at the Annual SHOT Symposium.

Further information

SHOT website: www.shotuk.org

Material available:

- Current Annual SHOT Report and Summary.
- Educational material including case studies.
- Newsletter with latest SHOT information.
- General news items from SHOT
- Archive of previous reports, summaries, newsletters and other resources.

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