OPTIMIZING PBM OUTCOMES: BEYOND PROTOCOLS – THE STRATEGIC NEED FOR EXPERT GUIDANCE AND COORDINATOR DEVELOPMENT

Christine M Cahill, MS, RN, **Sarah Walbolt,** RN

Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida, and University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

Introduction: Patient blood management (PBM) optimizes patient outcomes by reducing/eliminating the use of blood. Some healthcare systems have integrated PBM into clinical practice and education, many face significant challenges. Among these is the limited implementation of published standards, formal training, and executive support. Nurse coordinators are critical to the implementation and success of PBM programs, yet many lack training and knowledge on implementation.

Methods: A survey was conducted among PBM professionals across institutions. It assessed perceptions of training, preparedness, support, and barriers to implementation. Due to the lack of formal training this specialized knowledge is limited

Results: The survey revealed that most respondents understand their responsibilities (68%) and engage in bloodless care/transfusion reduction activities (76%). Staff contributions are recognized and result in improvements (84%). Gaps were identified in institutional support- 40% reporting adequate staffing, time, and leadership resources, 60% indicating they received sufficient training. These findings highlight the need for consultation, educational programs, and organizational support to optimize PBM implementation...

Conclusions: Survey findings underscore the need for educational initiatives to strengthen roles in PBM implementation. Nurses are indispensable to advancing bloodless medicine. The respondents were a mix of PBM nurse coordinators and TSO's who are generally lab trained professionals. This mix may have led to overestimates of confidence in transfusion medicine. Due to the specialized knowledge required for successful implementation, consultation has become an evolving role and is poised to make a significant impact. PBM has proven to improve patient outcomes, reduce transfusion, and align practices with evidence-based care.

Corresponding author: Christine Cahill, (MS, RN), Mayo Clinic, 4500 San Pablo Road S, Jacksonville, Fl 32224, USA

Email: cahill.christine@mayo.edu

Abstract track: Education in Bloodless Medicine and Surgery