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Cover image

Readying donated packed red blood cells for transfusion. Perioperative bleeding, anaemia, transfusion, patient blood management: this issue has a number of important articles relevant to these topics. An editorial by Frank & Cushing on bleeding, anaemia and transfusion contextualizes four articles on these topics, two by Turan and colleagues on the association between postoperative haemoglobin with myocardial infarction and mortality (pp 87–93) and with myocardial injury (pp 94–101), and two by Roshanov and colleagues on establishing criteria for (pp 163–171) and preoperative prediction of (pp 172–180) bleeding independently associated with mortality after noncardiac surgery (BIMS). An editorial by Meybohm and colleagues (pp 9–11) and an independent discussion by Abbott & Gillies (pp 157–162) address the recent PREVENTT study of intravenous iron administered to anaemic patients before surgery. Editorials by Hanley and colleagues (pp 12–17) and Cortegiani and colleagues (pp 17–20) and a pharmacokinetic study by Grassin-Delyle and colleagues (pp 201–209) address the use of tranexamic acid in trauma patients. Gillies and colleagues (pp 77–86) present a feasibility study on restrictive versus liberal transfusion strategy to prevent myocardial injury in patients undergoing hip surgery. Roman and colleagues (pp 149–156) report a network meta-analysis of the cost-benefit of patient blood management interventions, which is accompanied by the first five articles in the Correspondence section (pp e1–e9).

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