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CONTENTS

RESEARCH

Estimated Blood Loss in Open Heart Surgery
(Perkiraan Kehilangan Darah di Bedah Jantung Terbuka)
Riesti Ekasanti, Rachmawati Muhiddin, Mansyur Arif ................................................................. 205–207

Error Rate of Disc Diffusion Method in Ceftazidime/Cefotaxime Susceptibility Test on Clinical Isolates
of Klebsiella Pneumoniae
(Laju Kesalahan Uji Kepekaan Ceftazidim/Cefotaxime Metode Difusi Cakram pada Klebsiella
Pneumoniae)
Luz Maria GBW, Osman Sianipar, Usi Sukorini .............................................................................. 208–211

Correlation of Monocyte Count, MLR and NLCR with Presepsin Level in SIRS
(Hubungan Jumlah Monosit, MLR dan NLCR dengan Kadar Presepsin pada SIRS)
Nurmalia PS, N. Suci W, Imam BW .................................................................................................. 212–218

Role of Signal Transduction ERK1/2 on the Proliferation of Endothelial Progenitor Cell (EPC) of Patients
with Stable Angina Pectoris Induced by Growth Factors
(Peran Transduksi Sinyal ERK1/2 terhadap Proliferasi Endothelial Progenitor Cell (EPC) Pasien Angina
Pekoris Stabil yang Diinduksi oleh Faktor Pertumbuhan)
Yudi Her Oktaviono, Djanggan Sargowo, Mohammad Aris Widodo, Yanni Dirgantara,
Angliana Chouw, Ferry Sandra ........................................................................................................ 219–226

Analysis of Mean Platelet Volume in Type II Diabetic Patients with Vascular Complication
(Analisis Mean Platelet Volume Pasien Diabetes Melitus Tipe II Komplikasi Vaskuler)
Mustakin, Liow Boy Kurniawan, Nurahmi, Ruland DN Pakasi .......................................................... 227–231

The Automatic Microdilution-Broth in Sensitivity Testing of Acinetobacter Baumannii Isolates
(Microdilution-Broth Otomatis dalam Uji Kepekaan Isolat Acinetobacter Baumannii)
Dyah Artini, Osman Sianipar, Umi S Intansari .................................................................................. 232–236

Interleukin-8 Related with Bone Mineral Density
(Interleukin-8 terhadap Kepadatan Mineral Tulang)
Yurdiansyah Latif, Uleng Bahrun, Ruland Pakasi ............................................................................. 237–240

The Risk Factor of Alloantibody Formation in Thalassemia Patients Receiving Multiple Transfusion
(Faktor Kebahayaan Terbentuknya Aloantibodi pada Pasien Talasemia yang Menerima Transfusi Darah
Berulang)
Veronica Fridawati, Teguh Triyono, Usi Sukorini ............................................................................... 241–245

Specific IgE Immunoblot Method in Allergic Rhinitis
(IgE Spesifik Menurut Metode Imunoblot di Rinitis Alergi)
Izzuki Muhashonah, Aryati, Dwi Reno Pawarti, M. Robi’ul Fuadi, Janti Trihabsari ......................... 246–253

Metabolic Syndrome Among Adults in Rural Areas
(Sindrom Metabolik pada Dewasa di Daerah Pedesaan)
Glycated Albumin and HbA1c in Diabetic Nephropathy
(Albumin Glikat dengan HbA1c dan Penyakit Nefropati Diabetik)
Elvan Dwi Widyadi, Jusak Nugraha, Ferdy Royland Marpaung .......................................................... 258–262

Small Dense Low Density Lipoprotein with Angiographically Atherosclerosis in Coronary Heart Disease
(Small Dense Low Density Lipoprotein dengan Aterosklerosis Secara Angiografi di Penyakit Jantung Koroner)
Yuliani Zalukhu, Siti Muchayat Purnamaningsih, Nahar Taufik, Suwarso .................................................. 263–267

Total IgG and IgG Anti PGL-I with Duration of Therapy and Reactions of Multibaciller Leprosy
(Jumlah Keseluruhan IgG dan IgG Anti PGL-I Mycobacterium leprae dengan Lama Pengobatan dan Reaksi Kusta Multibasiler)
Endang Retnowati, Halik Wijaya, Indropo Agusni .................................................................................. 268–273

Factors in Acute Transfusion Reaction
(Faktor Reaksi Transfusi Darah Akut)
Wiwi Payung, Rachmawati AM, Mansyur Arif .......................................................................................... 274–278

Neopterin and CD4+ T-Lymphocytes in Stage I HIV Infection
(Neopterin dan Limfosit T-CD4+ di Infeksi HIV Stadium I)
Harianah, Endang Retnowati, Erwin Astha Triyono .............................................................................. 279–283

LITERATURE REVIEW
The Role of Platelets SCD40L to Atherogenesis
(Peran sCD40L Trombosit terhadap Aterogenesis)
Liong Boy Kurniawan .......................................................................................................................... 284–288

CASE REPORT
Multiple Myeloma in a Young Adult
(Mieloma Multipel di Dewasa Muda)
Hendra Rasubala, Agus Alim Abdullah, Mansyur Arif ............................................................................ 289–292

Thanks to editors in duty of IJCP & ML Vol 22 No. 3 July 2016
Aryati, Ida Parwati, Purwanto AP, July Kumalawati, Puspa Wardhani, Rismawati Yaswir,
Kusworini Handono, Ninik Sukartini, Adi Koesoema Aman, Rahayuningsih Dharma,
AAG. Sudewa, Sidarti Soehita, Endang Retnowati
Estimated blood loss is an estimation of how much blood is lost during surgery. The amount of transfusion requirement in elective surgery preparation is often ordered inappropriately with the amount of blood that is transfused during the surgery because there is still no guideline about the quantity of blood required for each type of surgery. This research aimed to know the estimation of blood loss during the open heart surgery procedure compliance with surgical blood ordering. This research is a retrospective research using data from the medical record installation of Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital from January 2009 to December 2012. The researchers found that there were thirty-two open heart surgery patients, consisting of 22 males (68.75%) and 10 females (31.25%). The results of this research showed that the average estimated blood loss in open heart surgery was 2.80 units of whole blood (980 mL) and the average of the blood demand ordering was 4.00 units of whole blood (1400 mL). Antara jumlah permintaan darah persiapan bedah dan taksiran kehilangan darah (p=0.149) terdapat ketidaksesuaian. Taksiran kehilangan darah di bedah jantung terbuka di RSUP dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Makassar adalah 2,80 kantong darah lengkap (980 mL), yang tidak sesuai dengan jumlah permintaan darah persiapan bedah.

Key words: Estimated blood loss, open heart surgery

INTRODUCTION

Estimated blood loss is an estimation of the amount of blood loss prepared by the surgeon to estimate the chances of bleeding during or after surgery caused by the surgery itself or by the presence of complications that occur during the surgery.1,2 Blood transfusion, consequently, is a procedure mostly taken in any enforcement actions, one of which is during heart surgery. Transfusion before surgery should be avoided by addressing the condition of anemia in advance (if it happens) to stop anti-thrombocyte drug delivery as well as to consider various strategies for autologous transfusion.3–5

Moreover, blood ordering for elective surgical preparation is often performed without considering the amount of blood transfused during surgery, as a result, more blood used are cancelled or refunded. The
Data from the blood bank of Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar showed that in 2010, the percentage of blood cancelled was 38% and the percentage of blood returned was 58%. In 2011, the percentage of blood cancelled was 31% and the percentage of blood returned was 36%. The percentage of blood cancelled was 32% and the percentage of blood returned was 40.9% in 2012. The high percentages of blood cancelled and returned indicates that the use of donor blood is still not quite appropriate.

Blood service at Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar is carried out by the Hospital Blood Bank (BDRS). The Hospital Blood Bank provides blood services regularly and quickly (cito). Pre-transfusion examination conducted in BDRS includes filtering blood type with slide and tube method as well as performing compatibility test with tube method. Turn Around Time (TAT) for fast cases is ≤1 hour and for regular cases between 1–2 hours. The Hospital Blood Bank as a dealer only receives blood from the Regional Technical Implementation Unit of Blood Transfusion (UPTD-T) in South Sulawesi province, so the availability of blood in the Hospital Blood Bank is highly dependent on blood supply in UPTD-T. A research conducted by Rachmawati in 2013 showed that the availability of blood in Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in 2010 was 6,248 (48%); in 2011 was 7,658 (42.8%) and in 2012 was 6,592 (36.6%). The results indicated that the blood supply from UPTD-T was still not enough to meet the blood needs at Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar.

Open heart surgery, furthermore, is one of the great surgeries causing a great amount of blood loss. Surgery in heart defects is usually associated with Congenital Heart Disease (CHD), heart valve abnormalities, as well as coronary heart disease. Types of open heart surgery usually performed, for instance, are Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) for coronary heart disease, Atrial Septal Closure or ventricle septal closure for congenital heart disease and Mitral Valve Replacement for heart valve disorders.

Unfortunately, a research on the estimated loss of blood transfusions for the preparation of open heart surgery conducted by Vaislic et al. showed that the need for blood during surgery was not as large as the amount of blood ordering. Similarly, a research conducted by Kajja et al. explained that the amount of blood loss in surgery can be assessed by calculating the impairment of hemoglobin (Hb loss) during the surgery. The research on estimated loss of blood transfusion in open heart surgery, however, still has not been conducted in Indonesia.

Finally, this research aimed to know determining the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery patients, so the use of donor blood in preparation for surgery can be appropriate. Therefore, the significances of this research expected are to increase the scientific explanation of the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery and to improve the demand of blood ordering in the preparation for open heart surgery as well as the use of donor blood.

METHODS

This research was a retrospective observational carried out by taking medical records in the medical record installation of Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar from January 2009 to December 2012. The number of samples that met the participation criteria was thirty-two patients aged between 15–67 years old having open heart surgery (via thoracotomy) with complete medical record data as well as with examined preoperative and postoperative Hb.

Estimated blood loss is an estimate of the amount of blood lost due to open heart surgery. The amount of blood loss in surgery can be derived from calculating each hemoglobin prior to the surgery (g/dL), examined in the previous 24 hour post-surgery. Hb- is hemoglobin in g/dL examined up to 72 hours after the surgery using a hematology analyzer of Sysmex XT-2000i. Blood Unit (BU) is the hemoglobin in g/dL transfused during surgery (one unit of blood is equal to/equivalent to 1 g/dL). Therefore, the estimated blood loss can be calculated using the following formula:

Estimated blood loss = Hb_{pre-op} - Hb_{post-op} + BU

Next, a statistical correlation test, Spearman test, was conducted using SPSS version 19 and then the results were tabulated.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data of those forty-five samples having open heart surgery taken from the Medical Record Installation of Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar from January 2009 to December 2012, there were thirty-two samples with a lifespan of between 15–67 years. Table 1 showed the general characteristics of the samples having open heart surgery, consisting of 22 males (68.75%) and 10 females (31.25%).
Based on the obtained data, among thirty-two samples having open heart surgery, the mean of the ordering for blood units used for the preparation of open heart surgery was 4.00 units of complete blood. Based on the formula, the mean of the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery was 2.80 units of complete blood. Table 2 showed that the ratio of the blood ordering and the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery indicated a mismatch statistically (p=0.149) with a weak correlation value (r=0.261).

Table 2 showed that the correlation of the blood ordering and the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery patients was weak. It also showed a discrepancy between the blood ordered for the preparation of surgery and the estimated blood loss in the open heart surgery.

The average weight of Indonesian people is between 50–60 kg, so to raise Hb 1 g/dL, 6 mL/kg of whole blood is required, equal to as much as 350 mL of blood. The mean of the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery was as much as 2.80 bags (980 mL), while the mean of blood ordering was as much as 4.00 bags (1400mL). The discrepancy between the blood ordering for the preparation of surgery and the estimated blood loss indicated that the utilization of donor blood still had not been appropriate, so there was still plenty of blood which were cancelled or returned in BDRs of Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital in Makassar. In addition, the administration of certain fluids to replace blood loss in open heart surgery, such as crystalloid or colloid fluid is considered to be useful for reducing the amount of blood transfusion required during surgery.

Similar results found by Vaislic et al3 about the estimated loss of blood transfusions for the preparation of open heart surgery in patients with heart defects also shows that the need for blood during the surgery was not as large as the blood ordered. However, this research still has limitations regarding the small number of open heart surgeries in Dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo Hospital and the incomplete medical records; as a result, the number of samples obtained was small since some of the samples had to be removed due to the lack of medical records.

**CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

In conclusion, the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery has never matched the ordering of surgical blood. The mean of the estimated blood loss in open heart surgery found in this research was 2.80 bags, equivalent to 980 mL of complete blood. Therefore, further researches based on the blood used and returned/cancelled are suggested to be conducted with more larger number of samples.

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