JOBS FACT SHEET FOR TRANSFUSION SAFETY OFFICER
A generic job description developed using the Hamilton, London, and University Health Network
TSO job descriptions

Division or Department: Transfusion Medicine

Position Title: Transfusion Safety Officer

JOB DESCRIPTION

Technical/Clinical
Collaborates with medical, technical, paramedical and nursing personnel to identify, implement and evaluate strategies for blood conservation
Reviews, recommends and/or introduces blood transfusion equipment devices to the appropriate hospital personnel
Reviews published guidelines, standards, and literature on blood product use, blood transfusion techniques, alternatives to transfusion and effects of transfusion and makes applicable recommendations
Liaises with Canadian Blood Services, commercial companies and Transfusion Medicine regulatory bodies on transfusion related matters
Liaises with Blood Transfusion Laboratories from other health care institutions
Reviews and investigates blood and blood product occurrence reports and transfusion reaction, and where appropriate recommends changes to current practices
Oversees the completion of lookbacks, tracebacks and patient inquiries regarding blood transfusions
Consult with clinical services regarding program changes that will affect blood product use, blood transfusion equipment needs, etc.
Identifies and investigates any trends related to transfusion practices, i.e. an increased occurrence of reaction
Acts as a resource for blood transfusion related technical problems

Utilization Management
Conducts prospective and retrospective audits on the utilization of blood, blood products and their alternatives
Monitors Transfusion Medicine product utilization and brings utilization issues to the attention of the Medical Director and the Transfusion Committee
Maintains blood usage statistics
Develops and maintains a resource library of alternatives to blood transfusion, and educational material

Quality and Risk Activities
Participates in the investigation of errors and accidents and reports to Manager, Medical Director and Transfusion Committee
Develop and monitors a blood product utilization program to ensure that appropriate products are requested and used and that wastage is minimal
Promotes benchmarking and evidence-based practice in the transfusion of the appropriate blood, blood products and
their alternatives
Works collaboratively with the Manager, Technical Specialist, and Blood Transfusion staff to ensure updating of policy and procedure manuals to reflect changes in transfusion practice
Participates as a member of committees requiring Transfusion Medicine input such as new product evaluation and nursing procedures

**Professional and Educational Activities**

Provides education to physicians, residents, technologists, paramedical, nursing personnel and patients on appropriate use of blood, blood products and their alternatives, and blood transfusion devices and other related information
Assists in planning educational symposiums on transfusion related topics
Develops and maintains a personal education program that supports continuing improvement in the role of Transfusion Safety Officer
Maintains a proactive involvement in professional organizations
Fosters a regional focus through planning and education on transfusion related issues
Acts as a resource to nurses, clinicians and staff related to Blood Transfusion issues
Liaises with other paramedical organizations to ensure implementation of best practices in transfusion therapy (i.e. OPANA, IV Nurses Association, etc.)

**Research**

Participates in transfusion related research
Participates and assists in the preparation of scientific papers for publication and/or presentation at scientific meetings on transfusion related matters
Liaise with clinicians, researchers and company representatives to identify research priorities