



Analysis of Blood Donors Deferral in Sharjah

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INTRODUCTION:

The first layer of blood supply safeguards requires proper donor selection & screening. Prospective blood donors are screened using questionnaires and interviews. Donor screening criteria are designed to protect the donor as well as the patient. The Blood Donors questionnaire & interview is history-based, specifically targeting medical and behavioral risk factors and travel patterns. Most countries continue to examine and invite comment on the interview's written and oral formats. Many studies have shown that blood donors' education, combined with opportunities for self-deferral can eliminate those with risk factors for HIV/AIDS and hepatitis from donation and could play an important part in blood safety .

AIM OF THIS STUDY IS:

- 1) To analyze the temporary blood donors deferral rate and the cause for their deferral.
- 2) To design a strategy for returning temporary deferred blood donors.
- 3) To discuss the need for establishing national registry for deferred blood donors.

MATERIAL & METHODS:

This is a retrospective , epidemiological

study carried out in Sharjah Blood Transfusion & Research Center in UAE.-Ministry of Health .The statistical data were taken from blood donors registry ,where the data for 12752 blood donors has been revised and analyzed.

RESULTS:

In this study 2.9% (370) blood donors were temporary deferred through donors' screening and interview. 92.7% were males, and 7.3% females.

The most common cause of on-site donor deferral is failure to meet the hemoglobin standard 76%, followed by high blood pressure, low blood pressure, and small group are deferred for other reasons like infection ,fever, history of cardiovascular disease, vaccination ,medication and travel history.

CONCLUSION:

The percentage of temporary deferred blood donors in this study is accepted when compared to other studies. Proper temporary blood donors deferral registry system during mobile blood donation campaigns that are carried out side the blood transfusion center needs to be enhanced to give more accurate data about the deferral rate and it's causes among blood donors in our country .

The percentage of returning temporary

deferred blood donors is higher in regular blood donors than first time blood donors , which reflects the importance of carefulness in deferring first time donors and the need for experienced recruiter and interviewers .

We need to establish a National Blood Donors Deferral Registry for both temporary and permanent deferred blood donors that could assist us in planning the future programs for blood donors recruitment & motivation. ■

