

### **Clinical Practice Guideline for Anemia Treatment in Jehovah's Witness Patients**

1. Medication orders for Anemia Treatment
  - a. Epoetin alfa 40,000 units IV daily until Hgb > 7 g/dL, then change to 40,000 units IV weekly
  - b. Iron sucrose 100 mg IV daily X 10 days, then initiate oral iron supplementation
  - c. Vitamin C 500 mg PO daily
  - d. Folic acid 1 mg PO or IV daily
  - e. Vitamin B12 1000 mcg PO daily
2. Control bleeding
  - a. Correct coagulopathy (INR > 1.5)
    - i. Prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC) 25 units/kg X 1 dose
    - ii. Vitamin K 10mg IV daily X 3 doses
    - iii. Consider use of cryoprecipitate if patient/family allows
3. Avoid unnecessary labs/ABGs; use pediatric tubes
4. Consider use of albumin 12.5 g or 25 g IV to aid in fluid resuscitation if the patient/family allow.  
PATIENT/FAMILY MUST CONSENT TO THE USE OF ALBUMIN.

#### References:

1. Posluszny JA and Napolitano LM. How do we treat life-threatening anemia in a Jehovah's Witness patient? Transfusion 2014;54:3026-34.