TITLE: Walking Blood Donor Programs: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 9 April 2010

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What are the benefits and harms associated with walking blood donor clinics?
2. What are the guidelines regarding walking blood donor clinics?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 3, 2010), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI (Health Devices Gold), EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between 1989 and March 2010. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, observational studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

One observational study pertaining to walking blood donor clinics was identified. No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, or evidence-based guidelines were identified. Information that may be of interest has been included in the appendix.
OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

One case study examining the use of walking blood donor transfusions in an “austere environment” was identified. Authors concluded that walking donor transfusions are appropriate in cases of exsanguination in extreme circumstances.

No guidelines regarding walking blood donor clinics were identified and overall, little evidence exists pertaining to their use.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED:

Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified.

Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified.

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Review articles


Additional references


