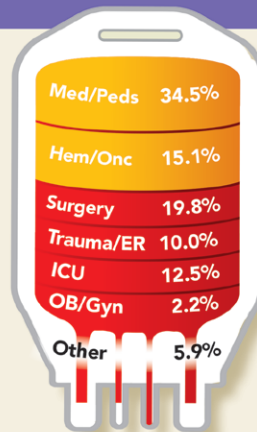


ANESTHESIOLOGY



Perioperative Transfusion: A Complicated Story

Each year approximately **21 million** blood components are transfused in the United States.*



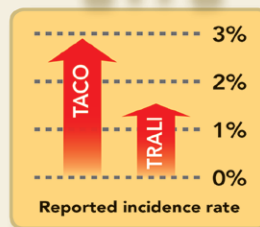
Anesthesiologists may be involved in up to **50%** of decisions to transfuse.*

TACO

Transfusion-associated circulatory overload has been reported at 1 in 13,843* but perioperatively may affect **1 in 33**.¹

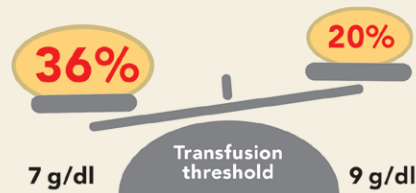
TRALI

Similarly, while reported at 1 in 63,940,* transfusion-associated lung injury in the postop period may affect **1 in 71**.²



Major Complications

Despite the higher incidence recently reported, a **restrictive transfusion** approach had nearly **2x** as many **serious complications** for major cancer surgery.³



We extracted the percentage of erythrocytes transfused by service directly from the 2011 National Blood Collection and Utilization Survey Report.* The medicine and pediatric (med/peds) services and hematology–oncology (hem/onc) services were grouped together in not having the potential for anesthesiologist involvement, whereas combined surgical departments (surgery), trauma/emergency room, medical and surgical intensive care units (ICU), obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), and other services (anesthesiology, outpatient) were deemed areas in which anesthesiologists may be involved in decisions to transfuse.

Infographic created by Jonathan P. Wanderer, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and James P. Rathmell, Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School. Illustration by Annemarie Johnson, Vivo Visuals. Address correspondence to Dr. Wanderer: jon.wanderer@vanderbilt.edu.

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* The 2011 National Blood Collection and Utilization Survey Report. Available at: <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/bloodsafety/2011-nbcus.pdf>. Accessed October 29, 2014.