

Preface

Quality assessment by definition is the data collection and analysis through which the degree of conformity to predetermined standards and criteria are determined. By performing assessments, areas that need improvement can be detected, analyzed, and corrected prior to any adverse events occurring. The ultimate goal of quality is patient safety and customer satisfaction. This guide is meant to serve as a reference to transfusion medicine professionals.

This guide focuses on quality measures from the beginning to the end of transfusions. There is guidance on how to audit processes from appropriate orders, sample collection, blood administration, and documentation. Examples of a few tools to use when analyzing processes are given to guide individuals. It is inevitable that an error will occur, so this guide has information on what is required and how to report items in compliance with regulatory agencies.

The Quality and Regulatory Subsection of the AABB Transfusion Medicine Section had the privilege to update this guide for others to reference in their practices. The subsection is a group of quality experts with many different experiences. The diversity of the group helped to make this an inclusive guide to transfusion medicine professionals in many different settings.

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