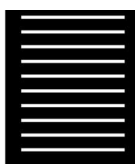


Preface



IN THE YEARS SINCE publication of the second edition of *The Transfusion Committee: Putting Patient Safety*

First (2013), the transfusion and cellular therapy landscape has changed markedly. This third edition addresses not only the issues that have remained constant, but more importantly, it also highlights those that have steadily evolved and those that seem to have come out of nowhere.

Oversight of transfusion and evidence-based practice have become even more crucial to patient safety. Myriad new therapies—involving both blood components and bi-therapy products—are being introduced and their use requires the careful consideration of an effective transfusion committee. This edition addresses many aspects of this endeavor.

The book opens with five chapters devoted to foundational explanations of why transfusion oversight is needed and how an effective committee operates. Also described are ways to ensure optimal organization, successful meetings, the connection with accreditation organizations, and the benefit of multidisciplinary representation at the table.

A second set of chapters explore three core activities of the committee. Blood utilization review goes beyond the elements of effective review and details some metrics and design/structure of the review process. Also examined are tools used to improve quality management efforts, as well as a focus on oversight of adverse reactions.

A third section of the book includes chapters on patient blood management (PBM), which has evolved from a “transfusion alternative” to mainstream transfusion practice. The PBM approach is viewed from various perspectives—program implementation, the role of the transfusion committee, concepts of bloodless medicine, and the impact of clinical practice guidelines on blood usage.

The final two chapters explore the transfusion committee and special patient populations. Both new to this edition, one delves into the function and challenges of transfusion committees around the world. The closing chapter addresses the facets of transfusion oversight as it applies to the pediatric patient population.

In addition to the chapters, this book is rich in sample reports, checklists, process performance measures, quality indicators, edu-

cational strategies, templates, etc to provide tools the reader can put to good use. The authors of this updated edition have made a major contribution to the medical literature, and I thank them for their ded-

ication to our profession. I hope readers have the same reaction.

Amy E. Schmidt, MD, PhD
Editor