



Dear Colleagues,

As was predicted, the region's blood supply is in danger of a serious shortage. This is because the donations have dropped significantly as a consequence of people staying at home and avoiding health care facilities.

Based on that, please review the following recommendations:

1. Be very conservative regarding the indication for RBC transfusions. Mildly symptomatic patients should not be transfused.
2. If the clinical situation allows consider delaying cytotoxic therapy by one week or a little longer in patients developing significant anemia and likely to require a transfusion if the trend were to continue.
3. Consider the use of erythropoietin for patients who may benefit and for whom there is no contraindication.
4. Consider a platelet threshold of 10,000 or even 5,000 in stable patients.
5. Attendings should discuss the platelet threshold for procedures when patients are "close" but not at the specified number.
6. Consider the use of prophylactic tranexamic acid in patients with severe thrombocytopenia.
7. Please encourage healthy friends, family members, and family members of patients to donate now. You can direct them to the [Bloodworks Northwest website](#) to identify the nearest donation center.

Thank you;

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