

# TACO

## TRANSFUSION ASSOCIATED CIRCULATORY OVERLOAD

### AN UNDER-REPORTED ADVERSE EVENT

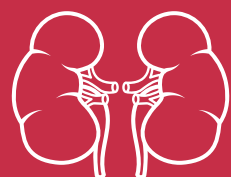
A syndrome of acute respiratory distress that occurs within 6 hours of blood transfusion and a leading cause of transfusion-related fatalities.

#### Risk Factors



##### Cardiac dysfunction

(recent myocardial injury, history of congestive heart failure, previous diuretic interventions, structural/functional abnormalities in diagnostic studies)



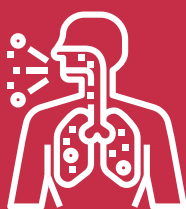
##### Renal dysfunction



##### Older age



##### Positive fluid balance



##### Current signs of cardio-pulmonary strain /limited reserves

(e.g. Tachypnea [respiratory rate greater than 20], ambient air hypoxia [spo2 less than 92%], JVP greater than 3 cm above sternal angle, bilateral chest rales, extra heart sounds [s3, s4])

#### Tactics to Reduce Circulatory Loading

##### Compliance with restrictive transfusion thresholds

See NSH policy CL-BP-001

##### Confirming the presence of anemia

(if patient/specimen hemodilution is suspected)

##### Appropriate patient volume-reduction strategies (e.g. diuresis, dialysis)

##### Slow the transfusion rate OR Limit other infusions

##### Foregoing / reducing the order OR Substituting lower-volume alternatives

Consult the authorized prescriber to advocate for reduced risk alternatives