

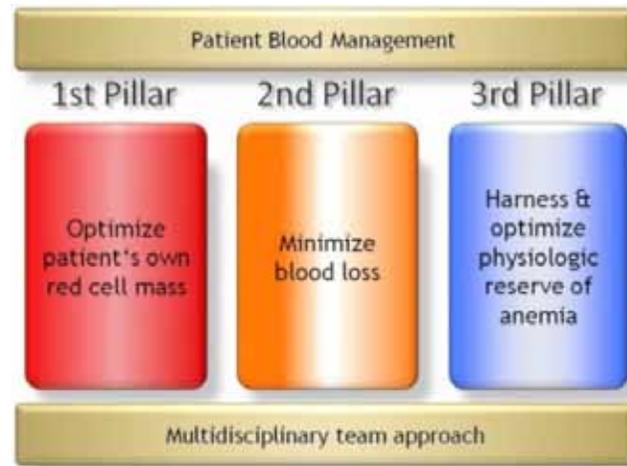
# European Guide on Good Practices for Patient Blood Management (PBM)

*Patient safety is of primary concern to the European Commission. An important element related to patient safety is the safe and adequate use of substances derived from human blood. In autumn 2013, the Commission has, therefore, issued a call for tender for „Good practices in the field of blood transfusion“ via its Consumers, Health and Food Executive Agency (Chafea).*

The Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) has been awarded a contract to develop „Good Practices in the Field of Blood Transfusion“ by the Consumers, Health and Food Executive Agency (Chafea) of the European Commission. AIT will be joined by a group of three leading experts to jointly develop an „EU Guide for Member States on Good Practices for Patient Blood Management (EU-PBM)“.

## Definition and Rationale of PBM

PBM is a multidisciplinary concept that primarily focuses on patient safety by (1) avoiding and/or treating anaemia, (2) minimising blood loss and bleeding and (3) optimising the physiological reserve of anaemia. Studies have shown that this comprehensive strategy significantly minimizes the use of allogeneic blood products and therefore reduces their adverse effects on patient outcome. It has also been demonstrated that PBM saves costs for health care systems.



## Aims

The aims of the project are to

- study and map blood use for different medical disciplines
- identify and map local and national differences in PBM strategies and blood utilisation,
- identify good practices in PBM and
- develop an EU guide on good practices for PBM based on the three pillars PBM concept

## Main Tasks

- Developing an EU guide for Member States and health professionals to help implementing good practices for PBM
- Implementing PBM programs in five teaching hospitals as a pilot in EU Member States
- Preparing an implementation strategy to help Member States to disseminate and implement PBM in hospitals across the EU

## Key messages

The key messages of PBM are

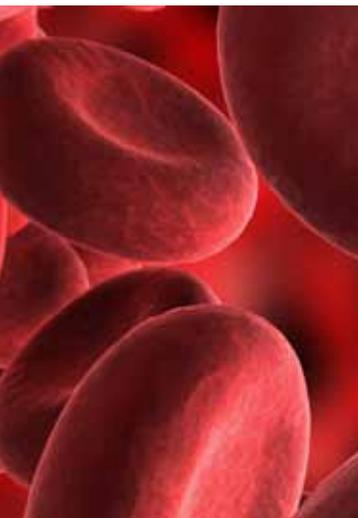
- Anaemia and/or bleeding is detrimental for patients
- Transfusions carry a much bigger hazard ratio than previously realized
- In hemodynamically stable patients, transfusion should not be the default response to anaemia and/or bleeding
- PBM has the potential to prevent and treat anaemia and blood loss, thus avoids transfusion and therefore improves patient safety and outcomes

## Benefits of effective PBM

- Effective PBM can deliver improved patient outcomes through the conservation and management of patient's own blood and better management of co-morbidities.
- Effective PBM optimises appropriate use of the limited donor blood supply.
- Effective PBM minimises the cost associated with the procurement and delivery of blood and blood products.

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## Disclaimer

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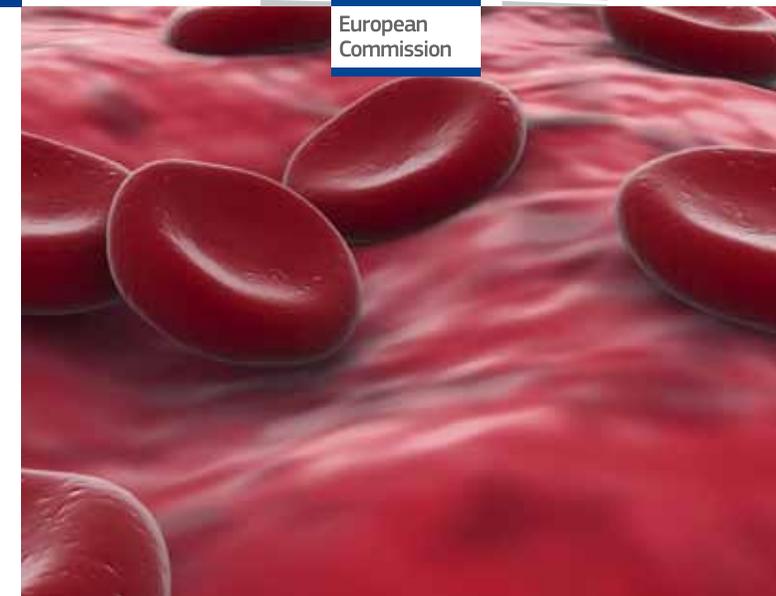
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