

Table 3. Risk Factors for Donation-Related Complications*

Demographic Characteristic	Reaction Rate (/1,000 donations)	Unadjusted Odds Ratio (95% CI)	Adjusted Odds Ratio [†] (95% CI)
Blood volume < 3500 mL [‡]	34.9	4.47 (4.10-4.88)	2.88 (2.57-3.23)
Age = 17-18 years [‡]	39.6	4.19 (3.94-4.45)	2.78 (2.59-2.98)
Age = 19-24 years [‡]	27.4	2.87 (2.68-3.06)	2.39 (2.23-2.56)
First-time donor [‡]	27.5	2.80 (2.66-2.94)	2.20 (2.07-2.33)
Race = Caucasian ethnicity [‡]	14.3	3.42 (2.63-4.46)	2.15 (1.64-2.82)
Blood volume = 3500-4000 mL [‡]	23.5	2.97 (2.77-3.17)	2.09 (1.90-2.31)

*Donor reaction rates and odds ratios of combined mild, moderate, and severe reactions by donor characteristics compared to donors without reactions.²

[†]Includes age group, gender, donation history, race/ethnicity, estimated blood volume, pulse, systolic blood pressure, and blood center as covariates.

[‡]Compared to the reference group: blood volume >4775 mL; age 25-65; repeat donor, and Black, non-Hispanic ethnicity.

However, the rate of major systemic complications (loss of consciousness, loss of consciousness with injury, prolonged recovery, major citrate) in 2-unit RBC donations was lower compared to the rate in WB donations; in particular, for donors <20 years [odds ratio, 0.41 (95% CI, 0.32 to 0.53)].⁴⁰ Blood Systems demonstrated that manual WB collections have a low incidence of moderate and severe reactions (47.1 per 10,000 collections, 0.47%).⁴¹ Single-unit RBCs collected by apheresis have the same safety profile (37.44 per 10,000 collections, $p > 0.20$). Two-unit RBC collections by apheresis and plateletpheresis collections have a significantly lower reaction rate (15.65 per 10,000 collections, $p < 0.00005$; and 14.84 per 10,000 collections, $p < 0.00005$, respectively).⁴¹

Automated 2-unit RBC collections have a favorable safety profile compared to whole blood collections, with a lower risk of major systemic complications compared to whole blood donation. This benefit is most pronounced among young and first-time donors, providing a rationale for further study and for possibly expanding apheresis red cell donation programs in colleges and high schools.

The apparent safety advantage of 2-unit RBC collections may be attributed to the saline replacement during such procedures or to the more stringent criteria for such donations (the hematocrit, height, and weight criteria used to select donors for 2-unit RBC donations are designed to select donors with larger red cell or total volumes than whole blood donors of smaller stature). Further analysis is needed to tease out the true impact of volume replacement.

Recommendations

The available evidence supports further study of expanding apheresis red cell donation programs in high schools and colleges.

VI. Postreaction Instructions to Donors and Parents

Donor centers must have procedures for postreaction care of donors (Standard 5.3.2.1).⁴²

Measures to improve communication with parents/guardians or school nurses may decrease the likelihood of delayed reactions after leaving the site, and donor centers should consider the following aspects:

- Communication with parents/guardians that the donor experienced a loss of consciousness or other reaction or injury, in accordance with state laws.
- Blood centers should ensure that donors who have had a reaction receive continued care while they are still at the collection site and after they reach home.

Conclusions and Future Directions

Blood centers should recognize all the dimensions of the donation experience that affect the risk of complications and consider one or more of the measures discussed in this report to enhance safety on high school drives. Blood centers should also monitor the effectiveness of their efforts to gauge progress and further refine their policies and procedures to protect donors and ensure a good donation experience. Although most donations are uneventful, even a minor complication reduces the likelihood of return donation. Serious injury following blood donation occurs infrequently among all donor age groups, but adolescent donors are disproportionately affected compared to older adults. In one study, the risk of syncope-related injury among 16- and 17-year-donors was 5.9 per 10,000 donations compared to 0.4 per 10,000 donations by individuals 20 years or older (odds ratio, 14.46; 95% CI, 10.43-20.04).⁶ Although the initiatives that have been defined in this report to reduce donor reactions are predicted to also prevent some injuries, the actual benefit of any specific action may be difficult to measure given the rarity of the occurrence of donor injuries. Currently, it is also impossible to compare reaction rates across donor centers because of inconsistent definitions of what constitutes a reaction, different reporting criteria, and variability in how individual phlebotomists recognize and report adverse reactions. AABB's effort to establish a national hemovigilance program in the United States will provide not only a uniform reporting structure for adverse events after blood donation but also the mechanism to monitor the effectiveness of efforts to prevent the rare, but more medically serious, donation-related complications. Although zero risk may not be attainable even in adults, the rate of complications in minors calls for ongoing attention to a sustained operational effort that is continually focused on donation safety.

References

1. Trouern-Trend JJ, Cable RG, Badon SJ, et al. A case-controlled multicenter study of vasovagal reactions in blood donors: Influence of sex, age, donation status, weight, blood pressure, and pulse. *Transfusion* 1999;39:316-20.

2. Wiltbank T, Giordano G, Kamel H, et al. Faint and prefaint reactions in whole-blood donors: An analysis of predonation measurements and their predictive value. *Transfusion* 2008 (in press).
3. Eder AF, Dy BA, Kennedy JA, et al. The American Red Cross Donor Hemovigilance Program, complications of donation reported in 2006. *Transfusion* 2008 (in press).
4. Newman BH. Blood donor complications after whole-blood donation. *Current Opin Hematol* 2004;11:321-2.
5. Newman BH, Satz SL, Janowicz NM, Siegfried BA. Donor reactions in high-school donors: The effects of sex, weight, and collection volume. *Transfusion* 2006;46:284-8.
6. Eder AF, Hillyer CD, Dy BA, et al. Adverse reactions to allogeneic whole blood donation by 16- and 17-year-olds. *JAMA* 2008;299:2279-86.
7. France CR, Rader A, Carlson B. Donors who react may not come back: Analysis of repeat donation as a function of phlebotomist ratings of vasovagal reactions. *Transfus Apher Sci* 2005;33:99-106.
8. Rader AW, France CR, Carlson B. Donor retention as a function of donor reactions to whole-blood and automated double red cell collections. *Transfusion* 2007;47:995-1001.
9. Custer B, Chinn A, Hirschler NV, et al. The consequences of temporary deferral on future whole blood donation. *Transfusion* 2007;47:1514-23.
10. France CR, Montalva R, France JL, Trost Z. Enhancing attitudes and intentions in prospective blood donors: Evaluation of a new donor recruitment brochure. *Transfusion* 2007;48:526-30.
11. Stewart KR, France CR, Rader AW, Stewart JC. Phlebotomist interpersonal skill predicts a reduction in reactions among volunteer blood donors. *Transfusion* 2006;46:1394-401.
12. Newman B, Tammolino E, Andreozzi C, et al. The effect of a 473-mL (16-oz) water drink on vasovagal donor reaction rates in high-school students. *Transfusion* 2007;47: 1524-33.
13. Kakaiya R, Burns S, Dausch D. Comparison of systemic reactions among blood donors with 450 mL and 500 mL whole blood donation (abstract). *Transfusion* 2005;45(Suppl):88A.
14. Bianco C, Robins JL. Whole blood collection volumes and donor safety: Equivalence between 450 mL and 500 mL collection sets (abstract). *Transfusion* 1994;34(Suppl):15S.
15. Tomasulo PA, Anderson AJ, Paluso MB, et al. A study of criteria for blood donor deferral. *Transfusion* 1980;20:511-18.
16. Bonk VA, France CR, Taylor BK. Distraction reduces self-reported physiological reactions to blood donation in novice donors with a blunting coping style. *Psychosom Med* 2001;63:447-52.
17. Hanson SA, France CR. Predonation water ingestion attenuates negative reactions to blood donation. *Transfusion* 2004;44:924-8.
18. Schroeder C, Bush VE, Norcliffe LJ, et al. Water drinking acutely improves orthostatic tolerance in healthy subjects. *Circulation* 2002;106:2806-11.
19. Lu CC, Diedrich A, Tung CS, et al. Water ingestion as prophylaxis against syncope. *Circulation* 2003;108:2660-5.
20. Claydon VE, Schroeder C, Norcliffe LJ, et al. Water drinking improves orthostatic tolerance in patients with posturally related syncope. *Clin Sci (Lond)* 2006;110:343-52.
21. Ditto B, Wilkins JA, France C R, et al. On-site training in applied muscle tension to reduce vasovagal reactions to blood donation. *J Behav Med* 2003;26:53-65.

22. Ditto B, France CR, Lavoie P, et al. Reducing reactions to blood donation with applied muscle tension: A randomized controlled trial. *Transfusion* 2003;43:1269-75.
23. Ditto B, France CR. The effects of applied tension on symptoms in French-speaking blood donors: A randomized trial. *Health Psychol* 2006;25:433-7.
24. Ditto B, France CR, Albert M, Byrne N. Dismantling applied tension: mechanisms of a treatment to reduce blood donation-related symptoms. *Transfusion* 2007;47:2217-22.
25. Kozak MJ, Montgomery GK. Multimodal behavioral treatment of recurrent injury-scene-elicited fainting (vasodepressor syncope). *Behav Psychother* 1981;9:316-21.
26. Ost LG, Fellenius J, Sterner U. Applied tension, exposure in vivo, and tension-only in the treatment of blood phobia. *Behav Res Ther* 1991;29:561-74.
27. Ost LG, Sterner U. Applied tension. A specific behavioral method for treatment of blood phobia. *Behav Res Ther* 1987;25:25-9.
28. Ost LG, Sterner U, Fellenius J. Applied tension, applied relaxation, and the combination in the treatment of blood phobia. *Behav Res Ther* 1989;27:109-21.
29. Peterson AL, Isler WC 3rd. Applied tension treatment of vasovagal syncope during pregnancy. *Mil Med* 2004;169:751-3.
30. Croci F, Brignole M, Menozzi C, et al. Efficacy and feasibility of isometric arm counter-pressure manoeuvres to abort impending vasovagal syncope during real life. *Europace* 2004;6:287-91.
31. Krediet CT, van Dijk N, Linzer M, et al. Management of vasovagal syncope: controlling or aborting faints by leg crossing and muscle tensing. *Circulation* 2002;106:1684-9.
32. Ten Harkel AD, van Lieshout JJ, Wieling W. Effects of leg muscle pumping and tensing on orthostatic arterial pressure: A study in normal subjects and patients with autonomic failure. *Clin Sci (Lond)* 1994;87:553-8.
33. van Dijk N, Quartieri F, Blanc JJ, et al. Effectiveness of physical counterpressure maneuvers in preventing vasovagal syncope: The Physical Counterpressure Manoeuvres Trial (PC-Trial). *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2006;48:1652-7.
34. van Lieshout JJ, ten Harkel AD, Wieling W. Physical manoeuvres for combating orthostatic dizziness in autonomic failure. *Lancet* 1992;339:897-8.
35. Brignole M, Croci F, Menozzi C, et al. Isometric arm counter-pressure maneuvers to abort impending vasovagal syncope. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2002;40:2053-9.
36. Foulds J, Wiedmann K, Patterson J, Brooks N. The effects of muscle tension on cerebral circulation in blood-phobic and non-phobic subjects. *Behav Res Ther* 1990;28:481-6.
37. France CR, France JL, Patterson SM. Blood pressure and cerebral oxygenation responses to skeletal muscle tension: A comparison of two physical maneuvers to prevent vasovagal reactions. *Clin Physiol Funct Imaging* 2006;26:21-5.
38. Kim KH, Cho JG, Lee KO, et al. Usefulness of physical maneuvers for prevention of vasovagal syncope. *Circ J* 2005;69:1084-8.
39. van Dijk N, de Bruin IG, Gisolf J, et al. Hemodynamic effects of leg crossing and skeletal muscle tensing during free standing in patients with vasovagal syncope. *J Appl Physiol* 2005;98:584-90.
40. Eder AF, Dy BA, Kennedy J, Benjamin RJ. The relative safety of automated red cell procedures and allogeneic whole blood collection in young donors. *J Clin Apher* 2007;22:53.

41. Wiltbank TB, Giordano GF. The safety profile of automated collections: An analysis of more than 1 million collections. *Transfusion* 2007;47:1002-5.
42. Price TH, ed. Standards for blood banks and transfusion services. 25th ed. Bethesda, MD: AABB, 2008:20.

Appendix 2.

Recommended Initiatives Concerning Education and Consent for Adolescent Blood Donors

Contributing Authors: Mary Townsend, Terry Perlin, and Jed Gorlin for the AABB
Younger Donors Adverse Reaction Working Group, Robert Jones, MD, Chair

I. Initiatives to Improve Education of Adolescent Donors, School Personnel, and Parents

A. Adolescent Donors

Objectives

1. To reduce reactions and injuries of high school donors by educating them about maneuvers to prevent common reactions and injuries resulting from such reactions.
2. To identify elements for inclusion in predonation materials designed to reduce anxiety and provide coping techniques, thereby reducing reactions and injuries.

Background

Although many aspects of blood collection (such as screening, labeling, and testing) are highly regulated and standardized across collection facilities, many other facets of the collection process are unregulated and vary widely, such as the multitude of materials supplied to donors for recruitment and educational purposes. Specific challenges arising from the collection of blood from an adolescent population, including the high rate of reactions, may be addressed by improvements in predonation education of the adolescent donor to allay anxiety associated with the blood donation process and to promote coping skills.

The association of predonation anxiety with increased rates of vasovagal reactions is well documented.¹⁻⁴ Labus et al³ used the Medical Fears Survey to assess the association of anxiety with the likelihood of fainting in a group of 364 volunteer blood donors and found that high scores best predicted fainting in first-time and experienced female donors. Efforts to address common donor fears and provide useful coping suggestions through predonation education were associated with improved scores on questionnaires that assessed donor attitudes, anxiety, self-efficacy (the belief that one has the capability to manage a situation), and intentions toward blood donation.⁵ Studies to evaluate the effect of educational materials on the frequency of reactions are under way.

Recommendations

Although no published studies evaluate the effectiveness of donor educational material in reducing reactions, studies associating anxiety and fear with an increased rate of reactions suggest that interventions, including education, to reduce anxiety should have a positive effect. Therefore, predonation educational materials can be considered part of the consent process, so that information pertinent to the donation process, possible reactions, and interventions is imparted before the adolescent makes the decision to donate.

Educational materials for high school donors will likely have a greater effect if they are designed with age-appropriate language and graphics. In addition, educational materials may be presented in adolescent-friendly formats such as videos. Regardless of the format, elements to be considered for inclusion in predonation materials for students include the following:

- A general statement to the effect that most donors have uneventful donations and that most reactions, when they occur, are minor.
- A statement identifying which donors may be at increased risk for a reaction (eg, young, first-time, female, or low-weight donors) and why.
- A brief description of the donation process to alleviate anxiety about the unknown for first-time donors.
- Descriptions of possible techniques to prevent reactions and enhance coping skills. Also, a brief explanation of the possible benefit of each technique may boost compliance. Common techniques that have been used include the following:
 - Predonation hydration.
 - Receiving adequate sleep.
 - Receiving adequate nutrition.
 - Avoiding alcohol before and after donation.
 - Using applied muscle tension.
 - Using distraction techniques.
 - Using progressive recovery techniques (eg, dangling legs).
 - Complying with postdonation instructions and spending adequate time in the canteen.
 - Avoiding strenuous physical activity after donation.
 - Acknowledging anxiety and alerting blood collection staff of anxious feelings.
 - Becoming informed and asking questions.
- Statements describing blood collection facility policies on parental consent and confidentiality regarding test results, if applicable.

B. Parents of Adolescent Donors

Objectives

1. To involve parents by educating them about ways to reduce donation risk for their adolescent children.
2. To involve parents by educating them about the handling and treatment of reactions and involving them in decision-making when reactions occur.

Background

Parents of adolescent blood donors are in a unique position both to participate with their children in the decision to donate blood and, if reactions occur, to provide any needed care after their children return home.

Recommendations

It may be helpful to provide parents with information about blood donation, possible adverse reactions, and parental involvement in the event of an adverse reaction, even if parental consent for the donation is not required. The following should be considered for parental educational materials:

- Materials should include the same informational elements as student educational materials.
- Materials may include specific statements regarding the confidentiality of donor information, as applicable.
- Materials may include general instructions for supporting donors after common reactions such as hematomas or vasovagal episodes.
- Materials may be provided to the parent with consent documents when such documents are required.

C. School Personnel

Objectives

1. To involve school personnel by educating them about ways to reduce donation risk for their adolescent students.
2. To involve school personnel by educating them about the handling and treatment of reactions and involving them in decision-making when reactions occur.

Background

As employees of the school district, school health personnel have responsibility for the health of students on campus and, therefore, may serve as integral partners with the blood collection facility in the care of student donors. These health personnel may be involved in donor reactions either during the blood drive or after the collections staff have left the collection site. In either case, school personnel may have specific responsibilities to the student and parent in cases of student injury. Education of school personnel about the general process of blood donation, the possible reactions, and appropriate interventions and treatment is likely to be well received. Articles specific to blood donation and reactions are needed in the school health literature.

Recommendations

Blood collection facilities are encouraged to communicate with school officials before high school blood drives to establish policies and delineate responsibilities for student care during and after the blood drive. It may be useful for blood collection facilities to develop educational materials that target school health personnel; elements for consideration include the following:

- A general statement to the effect that most donors have uneventful donations and that most reactions, when they occur, are minor.
- A statement about which donors may be at increased risk for a reaction (eg, young, first-time, female, or low-weight donors) and why.
- A brief description of the donation process.
- A description of signs and symptoms of common donor reactions.
- A brief description of the appropriate handling of common donor reactions.

- A statement delineating the responsibilities of blood center personnel and school health personnel.
- A statement regarding confidentiality and release of information to parents, if applicable.

II. Initiatives to Address Consent Issues Specific to Adolescent Donors

Objectives

1. To provide blood collection facilities with information specific to informed consent of minor/adolescent donors.
2. To consider addressing increased rates of reactions in this age group in the informed consent process.

Background

The ethical substance of informed consent incorporates the fundamental principles of autonomy, veracity, beneficence, and nonmaleficence. The application of informed consent principles for both blood donors and blood recipients has been thoroughly addressed through peer-reviewed journal articles⁶⁻⁸ and AABB publications.^{9,10} However, the collection of blood from 16- and 17-year-old minors presents particular dilemmas and challenges with regard to traditional notions of informed consent.

Many states have long allowed 17-year-olds to consent to donate by specific state statute, but these statutes are silent on the issue of the minor's right to consent to subsequent medical treatment for an adverse reaction. Therefore, the consent process should take into account applicable state law provisions.

States that allow 16-year-olds to donate often require parental permission/consent. This situation allows the process of donation but does not imply any emancipated status because of the requirement for parental permission. Although 16- and 17-year-olds are sometimes recognized by state law as having the decisional skills necessary for making informed health-care decisions, parents and guardians still have legal responsibility, absent state law provisions to the contrary. This ambiguity is often handled by including the additional concept of assent, the notion that minors should be involved in health-care decisions in age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate ways.⁸

Specific issues arise when applying this distinction to blood donation. Blood collection facilities have traditionally adhered strictly to practices of confidentiality in notification of blood donors, including minors, of positive test results. Such policies need to be reviewed by blood collectors with specific attention to state statutes. The research setting presents similar issues. Minors are generally prohibited from participating in research without parental permission; however, blood collection facilities may perform certain required or elective tests under research protocols that have been approved by an institutional review board, and such protocols address the requirements for consent applicable to minors. Because statutes governing informed consent are state specific,

blood collection facilities are urged to consult legal counsel when addressing consent issues regarding minors.

In summary, it is vital to remember that consent is *not* a simple signature on a form, but a broader process that involves education of the donor and, in some cases, the parent. Providing adolescent donors (and parents) with information regarding the donation process and possible consequences meets an essential requirement of informed consent.

Recommendations

Blood collection facilities should consider the following:

- Consulting state statutes regarding age and consent requirements.
- Becoming familiar with the literature specific to adolescent/minor consent and assent.^{7,8}
- Providing information to both donors and parents as part of the consent process. (Some facilities provide a parental consent form that functions as both informational brochure and consent documentation, when applicable.)
- Incorporating information specific to increased rates of reactions among groups such as young and first-time donors into the informed consent process.
- Incorporating statements concerning the release of information to parents about medical care for reactions and positive test results, as applicable.

References

1. Graham DT. Prediction of fainting in blood donors. *Circulation* 1961;23:901-6.
2. Callahan R, Edelman EB, Smith MS, Smith JJ. Study of the incidence and characteristics of blood donor "reactor." *Transfusion* 1963;3:76-82.
3. Labus J, France CR, Taylor BK. Vasovagal reactions in volunteer blood donors: Analyzing the predictive power of the Medical Fears Survey. *Int J Behav Med* 2000;7:62-72.
4. Kleinknecht RA, Thorndike RM. The Multilication Questionnaire as a predictor of blood/injury fear and fainting. *Behav Res Ther* 1990;28:429-37.
5. France CR, Montalva R, France JL, Trost Z. Enhancing attitudes and intentions in prospective blood donors: Evaluation of a new donor recruitment brochure. *Transfusion* 2008;48:526-30.
6. Alaishuski LA, Grim RD, Domen RE. The informed consent process in whole blood donation. *Arch Pathol Lab Med* 2007;132:947-51.
7. Kuther TL. Medical decision-making and minors: Issues of consent and assent. *Adolescence* 2003 Summer;38:343-58.
8. American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Bioethics. Informed consent, parental permission, and assent in pediatric practice. *Pediatrics* 1995;95:314-17.
9. Burch JW, Uhl L. Guidelines for informed consent in transfusion medicine. Bethesda, MD: AAB, 2006.
10. Stowell CP, Sazama K, eds. Informed consent in blood transfusion and cellular therapies: Patients, donors, and research subjects. Bethesda, MD: AABB Press, 2007.

協会報 No.08-04

日付： 2008 年 8 月 28 日
宛先： AABB 会員各位
差出人： J.Daniel Connor, MM, 会長
Karen Shoos Lipton, JD, 最高責任者
件名： 若年献血者の副作用及び傷害を軽減する方策について

この協会会報には、20 歳未満の献血者の傷害及び有害反応のリスクを緩和する方策に関する会員向け情報が含まれる。AABB は、高校及び大学での移動献血の刷新を期待し、本会報を発行している。採血施設は、この献血者集団における傷害及び副作用の発生を軽減するため、いくつかのこれらの方針の実施を検討するとよいと思われる。

協会会報は、AABB 理事会が配布を承認したものであり、承認のための要件や基準の発表、新しい傾向またはベストプラクティスに関する勧告、関連情報などを含むことができる。本会報には、具体的な勧告は含まれず、基準や承認要件を作成するものではない。これは、AABB 若年献血者副作用作業部会の報告書に基づいている。同部会は、医師、看護師、運営者、広報及び法律専門家や米国血液銀行協会（AABB）、米国血液センター（America's Blood Centers）、米国赤十字社、米国血液センター（Blood Centers of America）からの代表者を含む。作業部会は入手された情報を検討及び協議し、現在の実践に基づき、1)若年献血者における副作用の軽減、2)副作用に関連した献血者の傷害の解消、3)若年献血者に関連した献血者教育及び同意の問題への対応、という三つの目標を取り上げた。これらの報告書の全文は、本会報の付属文書 1 と付属文書 2 に盛り込み、これらの目標を達成する可能性のある数多くの方策について記載している。いくつかの示唆された介入は、研究やデータの裏づけがあるが、その他については一般的な行為や期待される行為であり、ここに記載した目標を達成することを確認するものではない。

背景

自発的献血は、国の血液供給の礎である。献血は、16 歳（州法が認める）から 75 歳以上またはそれ以上の年齢幅にある健康な集団から募る。年齢の高い献血者からの献血は、個人の健康問題やその他の適格性を阻む壁によって減少しているため、過去数年間、採血施設は若年献血者からの献血をより重要視してきた。採血施設からの報告によると、現在米国のすべての全血採血のうち、10～20 パーセントは 20 歳未満の献血者から採取したものであるという。16 歳に献血資格を認める州では、この年齢群からの献血割合はさらに高くなっている。この献血層の伸びは、高校における移動献血の増加と関係している。高校生の献血者は一般に、多くの理由で献血の機会を受け入れる。その理由の中には、献血が「通過儀礼」であるという感覚、献血に関する医学的・

技術的側面への関心、多くの場合授業を免除される、などがある。また、延期率が低く、若いうちに献血を経験することにより、将来引き続き献血を行う可能性が高くなることから、理想的な献血者であるともいえる。

若年献血者及び高校における移動献血からのデータが蓄積されるにつれ、この献血者群の副作用率は他に比べてより高いことが判明し、ある研究によると成人の率の5倍も高いことが報告されている。傷害に至るまでの重篤な失神反応が献血者に生じることは稀であるが、このグループでは比較的高くなる。さらに、年齢は、副作用リスクと反比例するようである。最近のいくつかの研究で、この現象や副作用を軽減する各種の方策について報告されている。こういった結果が公表され、採血施設はこの問題に対する関心を高めている。このような新しい情報を認識し、献血者の安全を確保し、献血経験を満足させることの重要性を理解することで、採血施設は若年献血者の安全性を確保する取り組みを行なっている。

献血者の副作用

献血の圧倒的多数は問題なく、副作用や不快症状もない。しかし、少数の献血者は静脈穿刺部位にあざや出血が生じたり、軽い吐き気、またはめまい、気絶前症状、気絶または失神による虚脱またはひきつけなど、意識に変化が生じる。作業部会は、失神等、献血者が転倒した場合に傷害に至る可能性がある意識反応の変化をとくに重視している。献血後、合併症リスクに影響を及ぼすいくつかの因子として、反応に対する献血者の先天的な特徴や体質、採血職員のスキルと経験、移動献血の設定場所及び環境の特性、及び献血前後の献血教育が挙げられる。

文献、発表研究、及び採血施設の経験から、全血献血後の高い失神併発率は、献血者の特徴と関連することが報告されている。こうした特徴には、若年齢、初回献血、低体重、低血液量、女性、白人の民族性などが挙げられる。若い年齢、総血液量と初回献血の状況は、失神反応の主要な決定要素であり、独立したリスク因子である事が知られている。

これらの誘発因子を考慮し、作業部会は以下等の副作用の軽減対策に関する多くの現場体験や文献報告を検討した。

- 献血前教育。この分野の対処は、献血により生じる可能性のある不快症状の内容や対処方法に関する献血者の理解に影響を及ぼす。この分野は、献血者教育の下で、さらに具体的に記載されている。
- 移動献血の環境及び設置。移動献血の設置に関する最も良い実践については、利用可能な発表されているデータや情報はほとんどないが、作業部会は適当な換気、電気コンセント、副作用を管理するための健康診断スペースの重要性を認識している。具体的な対策として、以下のものが協議された。
 - 1 作業を支持し、許容できる状況を確保するための設置場所選定手順および、その条件が不