**TACO TRANSFUSION ASSOCIATED CIRCULATORY OVERLOAD**

Is your patient at risk?

**ASSESSMENT**

- Does the patient have pre-existing cardiac dysfunction?
  - Is the patient on a regular diuretic?

- Is the patient known to have pulmonary oedema?

- Does the patient have any respiratory symptoms of undiagnosed cause?

- Is the fluid balance positive?

- Is the patient receiving continuous IV fluids (current or within last 24 hours)?
  - Is there any peripheral oedema?

**PREVENTION**

If **YES to any of the above:**

- Review the need for transfusion, should/can it be deferred?
- Transfuse one unit and review.
- Administer at a slow rate.
- Measure the fluid balance.
- Consider a prophylactic diuretic.
- Monitor the patient closely
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MONITORING
Signs and symptoms of TACO – what to watch for:

- Dyspnoea, SOB
- Orthopnoea
- Cyanosis
- Tachycardia
- Pedal oedema (foot swelling)
- Hypertension
- Rales on auscultation
- Chest tightness
- Dry cough
- Positive fluid balance
- Pink, frothy sputum

TREATMENT
If signs and symptoms occur:

- STOP the transfusion
- Assess patient
- Emergency call if meet criteria
- Contact the medical officer
- Treat the patient as directed
- Report via usual hospital mechanisms

Based on SHOT information 2015