

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The clinical lead for perioperative anaemia should support implementation of this guideline, through local quality improvement programmes. This will require:

- patient and public involvement in co-design/co-production
- identification of local key performance indicators based on the metrics below
- collaboration with local data analysts/informatics to support robust data collection (ideally through linkage with existing datasets, for example Getting it Right First Time, Perioperative Quality Improvement Programme, Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership)
- local measurement using a time series approach (eg statistical process control charts)
- local collaborative, interdisciplinary audit/morbidity/mortality meetings to review the data and inform quality improvement programmes

To support measurement for improvement the following metrics may be used:

Metrics to support the development of the clinical pathway

- Number/proportion of patients presenting for major surgery identified to have anaemia
- Number/proportion of patients with anaemia who required an intervention (eg iron infusion, blood transfusion) preoperatively
- Number/proportion of patients with anaemia who required an intervention (eg blood transfusion) intraoperatively
- Number/proportion of patients with anaemia who have required an intervention (eg iron infusion, blood transfusion) postoperatively
- Number/proportion of patients with anaemia who have had surgery postponed/cancelled
- Number/proportion of patients with anaemia who are referred postoperatively for further follow-up or management of anaemia at discharge
- Number/proportion of patients living with anaemia who have documentation of treatment escalation plans and advance care plans (eg Jehovah's Witness)

Metrics to measure process

- Availability of hospital guideline for detection and management of anaemia applicable to the perioperative setting
- Length of hospital stay of patients undergoing major surgery who have anaemia
- Length of hospital stay of patients undergoing major surgery who have needed an intervention (eg blood transfusion) to treat their anaemia
- 30-day readmission in patients with anaemia undergoing surgery

Metrics to measure patient reported outcomes

- Decisional regret
- Satisfaction with shared decision making (eg using SDMQ9)
- Quality of life measures such as EQ-5D-5L

Metrics to support workforce development

- Number/proportion of staff working in perioperative care settings who have completed training up to (and including) eLFH level 3 training or equivalent
- Availability of a team to support/deliver perioperative management of anaemia.