

## KNOWLEDGE ON TRANSFUSION MEDICINE AMONG THE STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF NURSING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA

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### Abstract

The transfusion of blood and its components is intended to provide safe medical treatment and to achieve satisfying results in different therapies. Many important processes in transfusion depend on the nurses. Their knowledge on the subject is fundamental.

**Objective:** The objective of this study is to evaluate the knowledge obtained in the field of transfusion medicine at the Faculty of Nursing. We also aimed to evaluate the efficiency of the present curricula during the bachelor program and to make suggestions to improve the program completing the necessary knowledge in transfusion medicine.

**Material and methods:** Our study was based on the evaluation of a questionnaire which was distributed without any prior announcement to 254 students of various master programs at the Faculty of Nursing. The questionnaire consisted of four sections. The first section of the questions concerned with general data about the groups. The second section included questions on ethics and regulations on blood transfusion. The third and the fourth section included technical questions and questions on procedures on blood transfusion. Students were divided into two groups: first group consisted of 139 students enrolled in the second cycle of the Scientific Master Research, of which 75 students had no

working experience and 61 students were employed in clinics that practiced blood transfusion.

The second group consisted of 118 students of which 91 were admitted directly after the studies and 27 having worked in the medical structures, 16 of them working in clinics that practice blood transfusion. Our findings show the lack of knowledge in the field of transfusion medicine taken at the bachelor level. Our findings suggest that the knowledge in the field of transfusion medicine is insufficient among all the studied groups, independently from the results obtained in bachelor studies or the working experience.

**Key words:** transfusion medicine, nursing, curricula, learning.

### Introduction

The transfusion of blood and its components is intended to provide safe medical treatment and to achieve satisfying results in different therapies. The use of blood transfusion is a medical treatment that carries some risks, which are often life threatening. Studies in recent years often show that blood or its components are frequently administrated improperly [1-5].

Data from countries that have applied the haemovigilance system provide ample evidence of the risks that come as a result of medical negligence [3-6]. There may be errors in determining the blood group of patients, transfusing blood or blood components in the wrong patients, negligence in monitoring the