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INTRODUCTION

What and why?

- To empower laboratory staff to question inappropriate red cell requests and improve the appropriate use of red cells within the Trust
- Invest in staff: Increase overall understanding around appropriate transfusion
- Encourage lab staff to look at the reasons for transfusion requests and patient results on LIMS

Initial actions / discussions.....

- Produce lab algorithm to support staff in decision making
- Which wards? – medical (stable non-bleeding patients)
- Which grades of lab staff?
- Production of training package
- Inform clinical staff on the wards about the project

METHOD

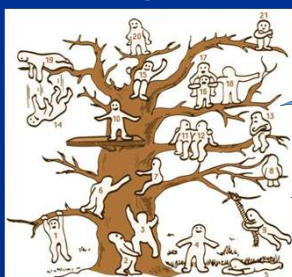
Data Collection

The following data collected pre and post implementation:

- No. of red cell units requested
- No. of single unit red cell requests
- No. of red cell units issued
- No. of red cell units transfused
- No. of requests referred to TPs

Jelly Baby Tree Staff Self-assessment

A reflective journey of staff before initial training post training and post implementation

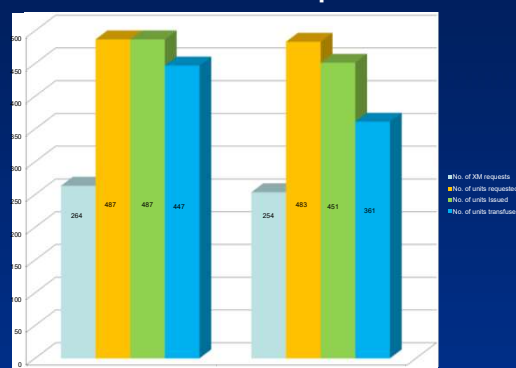


What are your thoughts about the project?

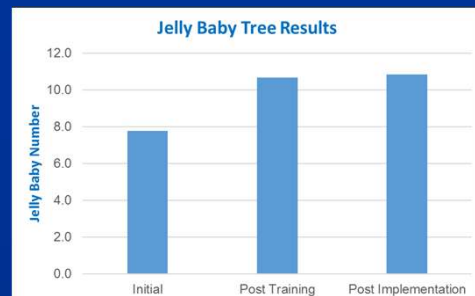
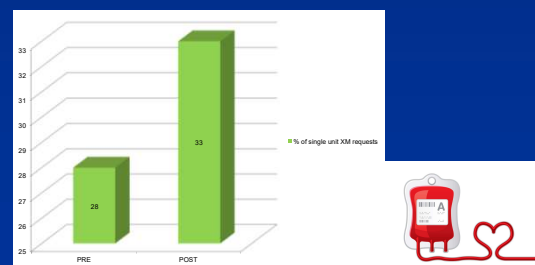
How do you feel about discussing the requests?

RESULTS

Comparison of Pre and Post Implementation Data



% of single unit XM requests



"Good initiative: Drs responding well and are getting used to requesting 1 unit instead of 2 in iron deficiency cases. Seem to need to question requests less" (JB 15)

CONCLUSION

The empowerment project has shown positive benefits for patient safety:

- ↓ in the overall number of transfusions taking place
- ↑ in the number of single unit transfusions post implementation
- ↑ in staff confidence to question inappropriate requests
- ↑ awareness by lab staff of their essential role in the 'transfusion process'

