

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Development of a Risk Assessment Model for Predicting Red Blood Cell Transfusion in Neonatal Patients

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### SUMMARY

**Background:** The goal was to develop a risk assessment model for predicting red blood cell (RBC) transfusion in neonatal patients to assist hospital blood supply departments in providing small portions of RBCs to those requiring RBC transfusion on time.

**Methods:** Clinical information was collected from 1,201 children admitted to the neonatal unit. Clinical factors associated with predicting RBC transfusion were screened, and prediction models were developed using stepwise and multifactorial logistic regression analyses, followed by the evaluation of prediction models using receiver operating characteristic curves, calibration curves, and decision curve analysis (DCA).

**Results:** Overall, 81 neonatal patients were transfused with RBCs, and the variables of gestational age at birth, age < 1 month, receipt of mechanical ventilation, and infant anemia were included in the final prediction model. The area under the curve of the prediction model was 0.936 (0.921 - 0.949), which was significantly higher than that of the individual indicators of gestational age at birth, age at admission < 1 month, receipt of mechanical ventilation, and infant anemia ( $p < 0.001$ ). DCA showed a standardized net benefit for the possible risk of infant RBC transfusion at 0.1 - 1.0.

**Conclusions:** We developed a risk assessment model to predict the risk of RBC transfusion in neonatal patients that can effectively assess the risk of RBC transfusion in children.

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## Supplementary Data

Table S1. Statistical table of clinical information of mothers of patients between the transfusion and no transfusion groups.

	Total (n = 1,201)	No Transfusion (n = 1,120)	Transfusion (n = 81)	p-value
Age	29.00 (26.00 - 32.00)	29.00 (26.00 - 32.00)	30.00 (26.00 - 34.00)	0.067
Number of births	1.76 ± 0.80	1.74 ± 0.02	2.03 ± 0.11	0.003
Number of pregnancies	2.45 ± 1.44	2.44 ± 0.43	2.73 ± 0.56	0.104
<b>History of Prevent Miscarriage</b>				
No	854	814	40	< 0.001
Yes	346	305	41	
<b>History of abnormal pregnancy</b>				
No	703	658	45	0.548
Yes	494	458	36	
<b>Pre-eclampsia</b>				
No	1,169	1,098	71	< 0.001
Yes	32	22	10	
<b>Placenta previa</b>				
No	1,161	1,086	75	0.072
Yes	40	34	6	
<b>Perinatal cardiomyopathy</b>				
No	1,186	1,105	81	0.617
Yes	15	15	0	
<b>Gestational diabetes mellitus</b>				
No	1,069	997	72	0.971
Yes	132	123	9	
<b>Hypertension</b>				
No	1,127	1,056	71	0.028
Yes	73	63	10	
<b>Hypothyroidism</b>				
No	1,169	1,091	78	0.807
Yes	32	29	3	
<b>Hyperthyroidism</b>				
No	1,190	1,111	79	0.167
Yes	11	9	2	
<b>Anaemia</b>				
No	1,178	1,098	80	0.966
Yes	23	22	1	
<b>Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy</b>				
No	1,185	1,105	80	1.000
Yes	16	15	1	
<b>Antiphospholipid</b>				
No	1,182	1,104	78	0.261
Yes	19	16	3	

**Table S1. Statistical table of clinical information of mothers of patients between the transfusion and no transfusion groups (continued).**

	Total (n = 1,201)	No Transfusion (n = 1,120)	Transfusion (n = 81)	p-value
<b>Premature rupture of membranes</b>				
No	1,004	949	55	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Yes	196	170	26	
<b>Mode of delivery</b>				
Easy Delivery	345	334	11	<b>0.002</b>
Caesarean Section	856	786	70	
<b><i>In vitro</i> fertilisation</b>				
No	1,135	1,062	73	<b>0.124</b>
Yes	66	58	8	
<b>Multiple pregnancy</b>				
No	1,092	1,025	67	<b>0.008</b>
Yes	109	95	14	

**Table S2. Statistical table of clinical information of patients between the transfusion group and the no transfusion group.**

	Total (n = 1,201)	No Transfusion (n = 1,120)	Transfusion (n = 81)	p-value
Gestational Age	37.01 ± 0.08	37.32 ± 0.07	32.63 ± 0.38	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Birth Weight	2.95 ± 0.94	3.02 ± 0.03	1.87 ± 0.08	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Apgar score (1 minute)	8.71 ± 1.04	8.79 ± 0.29	7.68 ± 0.16	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Gender</b>				
Female	465	432	33	<b>0.699</b>
Male	736	688	48	
<b>ABO blood group</b>				
A	375	354	21	<b>0.235</b>
B	331	305	26	
O	397	366	31	
AB	98	95	3	
<b>RhD blood group</b>				
Positive	1,197	1,117	80	<b>0.244</b>
Negative	4	3	1	
<b>Asphyxia</b>				
No	1,175	1,100	75	<b>0.030</b>
Yes	26	20	6	
<b>Mechanical ventilation</b>				
No	948	888	60	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Yes	253	232	21	
<b>Oxygen therapy</b>				
No	929	873	56	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Yes	272	247	25	

**Table S2. Statistical table of clinical information of patients between the transfusion group and the no transfusion group (continued).**

	<b>Total (n = 1,201)</b>	<b>No Transfusion (n = 1,120)</b>	<b>Transfusion (n = 81)</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b>Fetal distress</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>0.676</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Neonatal respiratory distress syndrome</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>1,137</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0.020</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Neonatal pneumonia</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0.045</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Anaemia</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Age</b>				
<b>&gt; 1 month</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.980</b>
<b>&lt; 1 month</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>1,059</b>	<b>76</b>	