

THE VALUE OF A HIGH QUALITY IMMUNOHAEMATOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS TO ENSURE BLOOD SAFETY.

Al. Dobrota

BTC Constanta

Objective: Faithfull to its assumed mission to contribute to the education and training of professionals working in the transfusion field, The Romanian Blood Transfusion Society is organizing the 3rd educational session in transfusion medicine, focused on the complex and challengeable field of immunohaematology.

This session is addressed to all those interested in acquiring, developing or updating knowledge and skills to solve "problem" cases in immunohaematology, to ensure adequate transfusion treatment whenever necessary .

Method: The program includes both the presentation of basic concepts in immunohaematology, updated information on blood groups classification, impact of erythrocytic antigen polymorphism on the capacity to ensure compatible transfusion treatment and practical matters of interest: issues concerning the algorithms used in Romania for testing and diagnosis of various categories of groups (blood donors, patients with transfusion indication and pregnant women, newborns). The speakers will illustrate with real cases from practice the multiple facets of the immuno-hematological testing activity addressed, be specific for a blood transfusion center or a hospital blood bank. The presentations and discussions will offer participants the opportunity to identify practical solutions to ensure safe transfusion therapy for immunized patients .The potential consequences when the pretransfusion testing protocol is not followed in multitransfused patients and implications on the capacity to select compatible blood components are exemplified by presenting a case of severe adverse reaction. Cases of hemolytic disease of the newborn with irregular antibodies of other specificity than anti-D will bring an add-value to the practical information provided along the session.

Conclusions: The subjects diversity ensures a wider scene for discussion and experience sharing among participants, hopefully stimulating the interest to increase knowledge and practical experience in a particular field of laboratory medicine / transfusion medicine. The educational session is expected to have a positive outcome, given the nationwide lack of any educational program to cover specialists' training needs. The educational session should strengthen blood transfusion centers capacity to support clinicians by providing a specialized response in solving special patients' transfusion needs. Ad-hoc formation of an informal network of experts, supporting the „problem” cases solving would be expected in the absence of a national reference immunohematology laboratory.