

ABSTRACT

Blood transfusion is a common procedure, which may be life-threatening condition if not utilized properly and effectively in the hospitals. Because of its abstract nature, proper knowledge and practice of medical officers was also mainly involved to provide safe blood transfusion services. However, there was limited report and data regarding safe blood transfusion services in Myanmar. This study was a hospital based cross sectional descriptive study, which aimed to assess knowledge and practice of blood transfusion safety procedure among medical officers and utilization of blood and blood products in North Okkalapa General and Teaching Hospital. In this study, eighty-two numbers of medical officers were voluntarily participated and data was collected by using pretested structured questionnaires. Moreover, utilization data for blood and blood products was taken from the hospital's record in 2017. The results showed that total utilization of blood and blood products were 17,349 units in which whole blood units (44%) was mostly used in 2017. In the hospital, blood and blood products were mainly used in Haematology ward (26.9%) and Surgery ward (24.2%). Regarding the blood transfusion safety procedure, most of medical officers (89%) did not receive blood transfusion training although they had experiences the handling of blood transfusion procedure within 6 months. Medical officers received good knowledge score (32.2%) and good practice score (44.6%) for blood transfusion safety procedure according to the cutoff value of 75% of total score. There was statistically significant association between knowledge and practice of medical officers particularly in patient preparation ($p < 0.001$), complications of blood transfusion ($p < 0.02$), and policies and guidelines for blood transfusion services ($p < 0.03$) in this study. Additionally, medical officers suggested to provide the training for blood transfusion safety procedure among healthcare professionals. In conclusion, it should encourage to provide effective blood transfusion training program for medical officers and careful planning and management of utilization of blood and blood products in the hospital.