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An Observational Study on Blood Supply to meet the Demand at University Hospital, KDU

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Blood service linked with undisrupted supply of blood components is a major requirement. To study the supply and demand of blood and components at University Hospital, KDU, Blood Bank Management System statistics was used from January 2020 to May 2021. The number of donors who attended in-house and mobile sessions during the study period was 1566. 1476(64.4%) total blood units were collected. 951 were from in-House donations and 525 (35.6%) were from mobile campaigns. Mean blood collection was 2.6 blood units per day. Number of red cell units requested for patients was 1856. The blood component issue distribution during the study period was 33.2% medical, 27.1% surgical, 0.5% paediatric and 7.7% gynaecology & obstetrics wards. The mean red cell transfusion episodes per day were 10.41 units. Requirement of platelet and plasma component units per day was 1.2 and 0.8 respectively. Deficit of red cell supply to demand was 7.8 units (300.3%) per day. Mean number of blood units received from National Blood Centre to overcome the deficit was 3.6 units of RCC per day. The identified challenges that needed to be addressed to fulfil the demand for blood supply included, being a new establishment, unawareness of the public of the facilities for donation and the COVID-19 pandemic. The strategies implemented to increase donations were to, increasing the public awareness by social media posts, displaying of posters, announcements and calling for donors. The most successful methods observed were hospital announcements and calling for donors. It is concluded that community awareness of blood donations to UHKDU has to be improved and regular auditing should be planned to assess the progress.

Keywords: *donation, blood supply, blood demand*