

Transfusion-Associated Circulatory Overload (TACO)

Narrative: A 54-year-old male patient admitted for gastrointestinal (GI) bleed received two units of packed red blood cells. Shortly after the second unit was transfused, the patient complained of shortness of breath. He became tachycardiac and tachypneic, and his oxygen saturations dropped into the 50s. The patient was placed on oxygen via nasal cannula at 6 L/minute, and intravenous (IV) Lasix was administered. A chest x-ray was indicative of pulmonary edema, and the patient was transferred to a higher level of care. Final interpretation of the event was consistent with transfusion-associated circulatory overload.

