Safe blood transfusion is the term refers to judicial and therapeutic use of blood and blood products. World Health Organization (WHO) recommends transfusion of safe blood which ensures the provision of compatible blood which are cross matched and screened for at least five WHO recommended Transfusion Transmitted Infections (TTI) in Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Syphilis and Malarial parasite1.

The idea of blood transfusion appeared in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries with the belief that transfusion of blood from a young and healthy person to an aged or debilitated individual would restore youth and health. With this idea in mind pope Innocent VIII was given blood from three unfortunate persons in 1542 and all the four died. In ancient history people also drink blood to be enriched with supernatural power2. Historical Events of Transfusion Medicine begins with invention of ABO blood group system by Karl Land Steiner since 1901 and invention of Rh blood group system by K. Land Steiner & A. Wiener since 1940.

Implementation of Safe Blood transfusion started in 1997 with the realization of judicial use and safety of blood and blood products in Bangladesh. A national strategic plan for HIV/AIDS/STD prevention was formulated incorporating blood transfusion sector. Since 2000 screening of Transfusion Transmitted Infection (WHO recommended) has been introduced in Bangladesh along with judicial act and national policies ruled by the Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Safe blood transfusion law 2002 has been approved by the parliament and published with an emphasis towards management and implementation of safe collection, processing, preservation and transfusion. The goal is to establish an efficient private blood transfusion centers and 100 Upazilla blood transfusion centers by 2008. Official Gazette notification of the law has been published for implementation from 1st August 2004 and safe blood transfusion ruling order has been published on 7th may 2005. Emphasis is given to the out door and day care facilities provided by professional blood donors7.

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Transfusion of blood from first degree relatives are not free from risk also, worse out come in marrow transplantation with development of anti-body are immune mediated in relatively short blood donation. As no blood is safe due to window period of HIV/HCV, HBV viruses and hazard is more in whole blood transfusion the appropriate clinical use of blood is mandatory3.

Safe blood transfusion programme is increasing its field by availing these strategies. So we can hope in near future that safe blood transfusion can also remove anxiety from patients having genetical diseases with counselling, stem cell transplantation (SCT) and inpatient therapy. By encouraging voluntary blood donation with celebrations like day by day like International Cancer Day (March 4th), International Haemophilia Day (17th April), International Thalassaemia Day (8th May) and World Blood donor day (17th June) we can motivate and educate general society. Thus we can bring sunshine in the sky of clinical transfusion practices in Bangladesh.

References
1. World Health Organization. (1997). Recommended transfusion transmitted infection i.e. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Syphilis and Malarial parasite.2

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4. Implementation of Safe Blood transfusion started in 1997 with the realization of judicial use and safety of blood and blood products in Bangladesh. A national strategic plan for HIV/AIDS/STD prevention was formulated incorporating blood transfusion sector. Since 2000 screening of Transfusion Transmitted Infection (WHO recommended) has been introduced in Bangladesh along with judicial act and national policies ruled by the Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Safe blood transfusion law 2002 has been approved by the parliament and published with an emphasis towards management and implementation of safe collection, processing, preservation and transfusion. The goal is to establish an efficient private blood transfusion centers and 100 Upazilla blood transfusion centers by 2008. Official Gazette notification of the law has been published for implementation from 1st August 2004 and safe blood transfusion ruling order has been published on 7th may 2005. Emphasis is given to the out door and day care facilities provided by professional blood donors7.


7. Dhaka: Shishu Hospital, 2004; 23(1).


9. HCV  became a serious problem in Bangladesh during 1990s. From 1990-1997, 0.5% in voluntary donors, while in professional donors hepatitis C positive 0.3% and syphilis 0.5% in voluntary donors, while in professional donors hepatitis C positive 0.2%, hepatitis B positive 0.1%, hepatitis A positive 6% and syphilis in 22%. So professional donors must be discouraged8.

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