

J Arthroplasty. 2014 Mar;29(3):501-3

Evaluation of the efficacy and safety of tranexamic acid for reducing blood loss in bilateral total knee arthroplasty.

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Abstract:

Tranexamic acid (TA) has been reported to reduce blood loss after total joint arthroplasty; however, the literature is sparse in evaluating its efficacy in simultaneous bilateral total knee arthroplasty (TKA). In this retrospective study of consecutive patients, TA use in bilateral TKA was associated with a significant reduction in perioperative serum hemoglobin drop, as well as allogeneic blood transfusion needs from 50% to 11% of patients. No autologous blood donation or drains were used. There were no venous thromboembolic events reported. Implementation of a systematic intravenous TA protocol in simultaneous bilateral TKA appears highly effective in reducing transfusion requirements, potentially reducing healthcare resource utilization as well as the morbidity and complications associated with allogeneic blood transfusions.