



The dangers of blood transfusion

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The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Health Forever, Product, Mr. Olajuwon Okubena, speaks from his Ikeja, Lagos office on the dangers of blood transfusion

The definition of blood transfusion in Wikipedia is very relevant in any discussion on this subject and I want to bring it in here. **Blood transfusion** is the process of transferring blood or blood-based products from one person into the circulatory system of another. Blood transfusions can be life-saving in some situations, such as massive blood loss due to trauma, or can be used to replace blood lost during surgery. Blood transfusions may also be used to treat a severe anaemia or thrombocytopenia caused by a blood disease. People suffering from hemophilia or sickle-cell disease may require frequent blood transfusions. Early transfusions used Whole Blood, but modern medical practice is to use only components of the blood.

Objections to blood transfusions may arise for personal, medical, or religious reasons. For example, Jehovah's Witnesses object to blood transfusion primarily on religious grounds - they believe that blood is sacred; although they have also highlighted possible complications associated with transfusion.

Apart from emergencies arising from trauma and blood loss during surgery, there is no need for the senseless transfusions that have become rampant in our health care delivery system.

The dangers in blood transfusion are many but I will only mention a few in this write-up.

A **Transfusion transmitted infection** (TTI) is a virus, parasite, or other potential pathogen that can be transmitted in donated blood through a transfusion to a recipient. The term is usually limited to known pathogens, but also sometimes includes agents such as Simian foamy virus which are not known to cause disease.

In developed countries, rigorous screening is usually done for known diseases for blood kept in blood banks but recently, the USA authorities made an announcement that there is no 100% guarantee of safety for such screened blood. The developing countries are very much disadvantaged for lack of necessary equipment to do thorough screening and the number of pathogens being screened are by far limited.

If great care is not taken in cross-matching the recipient's immune system will attack the donor blood.

A number of infectious diseases (such as HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B and hepatitis C) can be passed from the donor to recipient.

Sorghum bicolor

leaves have been in use in folklore medicine in the management of anaemia for several decades in many parts of South Western Nigeria and there are several publications in peer-reviewed journals by authors in Nigeria and other parts of the world resulting from research work done in the laboratories.

A proprietary herbal medicine called Jobelyn (made from *Sorghum bicolor* leaf sheaths⁰ which has been in the market for more than ten years has been researched to provide evidence of its efficacy for anaemia. Research publications in the African Journal of Biotechnology of September 2003 from the College of Medicine, University of Lagos and the University of Benin in Edo State confirmed that Jobelyn is indeed the solution for anemia. Full research publication is available at: <http://www.afritradomedic.com/trypanosoma.pdf> Subsequent use on humans have also confirmed its

efficacy. Recent clinical studies with Lindabel Medical Centre, Lawanson, Surulere in Lagos as the lead hospital confirmed that Jobelyn restores anaemia very rapidly..

Jobelyn was introduced to the Nigerian General Medical Practitioners in 2004 and there was stiff resistance initially but over time, many hospitals and clinics are now prescribing Jobelyn as a reliable product for taking care of anaemia.

I have received many enquiries about the safety of Jobelyn particularly for use by women in pregnancy. Apart from the LD50 toxicological studies done at College of Medicine to establish the safety of Jobelyn, we have on record the testimonies of several customers including Medical Practitioners who have benefited from the use of Jobelyn for management of anaemia in pregnancy. Jobelyn is food supplement made from Sorghum bicolor and the nutritional analysis showed that apart from the tested phytochemical compounds, it is very rich in carbohydrates, protein and dietary fibre.

Jobelyn is being regularly prescribed in a popular Lagos government hospital for the treatment of anaemia resulting from dialysis. Most dialysis patients receive blood transfusion after the exercise to replace blood lost in the process but many of the patients using Jobelyn are able to avoid transfusion after dialysis.

Reports from other parts of the world have also been very encouraging. Some years ago, I receive a call from a British national whose child was to be transfused with blood before a kidney operation as a result of anaemia. We offered a sample of Jobelyn to this man free of cost on a bargain that he would report the result of the use to us. The following is a verbatim report from this man:

Dear Moses,

Thank you so much for helping our son Todd, with what proved to be a life saving product, Todd was able to go ahead last week and have his kidney removed, because his blood level was at 10.2, so really grateful for your remarkable product! Doctors wouldn't let me have the blood results.

As promised here is my story about our son and your life saving product.

I first began to notice a change in Todd at the end of 2002, Todd was just 3 years old and learning to toilet train himself, it was at this time I noticed that his urine was cloudy. We were told by the doctor that he had a urine infection and should take these antibiotics to clear it up. It didn't, in fact it got worse, his colour looked like that of a ghost, he was chronically tired all the time, and running a high temperature, a very distressing time for any parent.

We finally found out the problem in March 2003, he had 16 kidney stones in his right kidney caused by the proteus bacteria, on top of that an abscess had form around his kidney, which had caused his blood cell count to drop to a dangerous level of just 6 (normal is 15) what's more the surgeons told me that Todd could die if they didn't transfuse him with blood, so they could perform a life saving operation on him.

That was our biggest challenge of all, my wife is a Jehovah's Witness, so no blood on religious grounds, mine is no blood on health grounds, since there are many complications with transfusions that aren't often told by Doctors.

The Doctors gave me just 5 weeks to get Todd's blood up to 10 other wise they would issue a ward of court and have him transfused.

They all so said that given the state of the infection it would not be possible to build his blood up naturally! But they allowed me a chance to try.

I went home switched on my computer, prayed for God's help, and began searching the web for natural blood builders and found a product in Africa called Jobelyn which claimed to build blood levels up in 7 days, with nothing to lose I contacted the owner and began using the product on Todd. Six weeks later we went back to Great Ormond St Hospital in London to have blood tests taken, the first thing I noticed about Todd after just one week on it was his colour returning, but can you imagine how shocked the Doctors were when they found Todd's blood was now 10.2, but it wasn't just his cell count that had improved, but his entire blood profile! How did you manage such a thing asked the Doctors. When I explained though you could see the shutters coming down, typical medical response I thought.

Still thanks to your life saving product, Todd was able to have his kidney removed and is making progress. Our Family our very grateful in making this product available to the whole world.

Marc Manklow Hampshire England. mmanklow@yahoo.co.uk

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Another remarkable testimony about the power of Jobelyn in averting blood transfusion came from Dana Farber Cancer Center in the USA. It is one of the two leading Cancer Research Centers in the world:

An American, whose wife is an associate professor in the department of occupational therapy, Boston University, Massachusetts, USA. He had Acute Myeloid Leukemia, refractory type M-O. He received three courses of chemotherapy between October and January 1996-1997. Two weeks after the last chemotherapy, his leukemia relapsed. He went for another protocol in which he received lymphocyte infusion (helper - T cells) followed by three weeks of interleukin 2 injections. In spite of all these, his blast continued to increase and the haematocrit kept going down. He was transfused with two pints of whole blood every other day. He also received multiple platelet transfusions. His case was dismissed by his doctors at Dana Farber Cancer Centre (one of the best two cancer centers in the world) as irredeemable.

He was given two days to live after discharge from Hospital. His wife, Elsie, placed an order for Jobelyn capsules through the internet. Samples of Jobelyn were sent to her and were administered on her husband who was admitted for acute myeloid leukemia at Dana Farber Cancer Institute Boston. He was already discharged and given two to three days at most to die because his body rejected all the blood transfused.

Jobelyn helped to prolong his life for more than he was expected to live. Though the patient is now deceased, his condition while on this therapy could best be summarised in the spouse's own words. "The Jobelyn definitely stabilised his hematocrit for as long as he took it and it may have prolonged his life a few weeks. Having been able to keep him alive for a month after they thought he was going to die, was worth it".

Dr. Elsie R. Vergara (Associate Professor) Boston University Mas.USA.

In any case of serious anaemia that could result into blood transfusion, two capsules taken three times a day would in most cases be sufficient to restore the blood level within a period of seven to 14 days.