

## **WHOLE BLOOD TRANSFUSION IN A DOMESTIC SHORT HAIRE CAT - A SUCCESSFUL CASE MANAGEMENT**

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Feline blood transfusion is a relatively uncommon veterinary practice in India. In contrast to dogs, cats possess naturally occurring alloantibodies against the blood type antigen they lack and mismatched transfusion with type A blood given to a type B cat will result in a very serious acute hemolytic transfusion reaction and death. A 3 year old male recumbent Domestic Short hair tom cat weighing 3.2 kgs was admitted in the Small Animal Inpatient ward of the Madras Veterinary College Hospital with a recent history of road traffic trauma involving right fore limb crush injury and severe blood loss. Clinical exam of the recumbent cat revealed hypothermia, anemia, poor perfused and blanched mucous membranes, aortic thudding at abdomen level and related secondary complications of inappetance, orthopnea and signs of wound sepsis at the left fore meta tarsal. Blood profiles on the recumbent cat indicated severe pancytopenia. About 30 mls of whole blood was collected from a healthy tom cat with Type A and transfused into the anemic recipient with type A blood group after a major and minor cross match. Mid tibial amputation was / successfully done in the surgical unit and the feline was discharged in 3 weeks with a normal recovery. The cat was reviewed after 2 months in good health.