CareFlight

Calcium in prehospital transfusion

Six years of CareFlight primary trauma retrievals to a single receiving trauma centre (2020 – 2025)

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Hypocalcaemia was uncommon

Median ionised calcium on arrival sat inside the normal range

1.18

mmol/L

median on arrival

IQR 1.11 – 1.22

below 1.15 mmol/L	**41.8%**
below 1.00 mmol/L	**7.5%**
below 0.90 mmol/L	**3.0%**

Two patients in the entire cohort were below 0.90 mmol/L.

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The first 4 hours in hospital

A reassuring arrival gas is not the end of the story

1.18

mmol/L at the door
where our job ends

1.09

lowest within 4 hours
IQR 1.00 – 1.14

11.6

further blood products, on average, in the first 4 hours after we hand over

Our patients arrive normocalcaemic and then receive nearly three times as much blood as we gave them.
The prehospital phase is not where this problem is solved — it is where it starts.
Arriving within normal range may have significant outcomes during the first 4 hours.

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