

Restrictive transfusion strategy safe for acute GI bleeding

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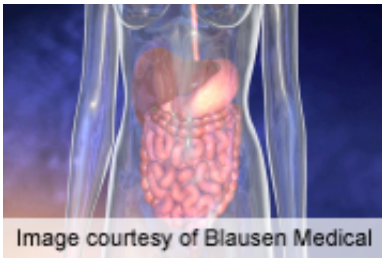


Image courtesy of Blausen Medical

For patients with severe acute gastrointestinal bleeding, a restrictive transfusion approach is safe and effective compared with a liberal approach, according to a study published in the Jan. 2 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

(HealthDay)—For patients with severe acute gastrointestinal bleeding, a restrictive transfusion approach is safe and effective compared with a liberal approach, according to a study published in the Jan. 2 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Càndid Villanueva, M.D., from the Hospital de Sant Pau in Barcelona, Spain, and colleagues conducted a [randomized trial](#) to compare the efficacy and safety of a restrictive transfusion strategy (461 patients; transfusion when hemoglobin level fell below 7 g/dL) with a liberal transfusion strategy (460 patients; transfusion when [hemoglobin level](#) fell below 9 g/dL) for severe acute [upper gastrointestinal bleeding](#).

The researchers found that 51 percent in the restrictive-strategy group

and 15 percent in the liberal-strategy group did not receive a transfusion (P

"Our results suggest that, in patients with acute gastrointestinal bleeding, a strategy of not performing transfusion until the [hemoglobin concentration](#) falls below 7 g per deciliter is a safe and effective approach," the authors write.

One author disclosed a financial tie to Sequana Medical.

More information: [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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