**Supplemental table 6. Subgroup analysis for the outcome of the units of perioperative allogeneic RBC transfusion.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Number of**  **studies** | **PANH** | **Control** | **I-V pooled WMD** |  |  | **D+L pooled WMD** |  |  | **Heterogeneity** |  |  | **τ2** |
|  |  | **N** | **N** | **WMD (95%CI)** | **z** | **p** | **WMD (95%CI)** | **z** | **p** | **χ2** | **I2 (%)** | **p** |  |
| Total | 31 | 897 | 877 | -0.28 (-0.33, -0.23) | 11.13 | <0.0001 | -0.94 (-1.27, -0.61) | 5.52 | <0.0001 | 574.28 | 95.3 | <0.0001 | 0.64 |
| **Type of Surgery** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cardiac surgery | 13 | 506 | 494 | -0.76 (-0.85, -0.66) | 15.52 | <0.0001 | -0.92 (-1.30, -0.53) | 4.69 | <0.0001 | 151.92 | 91.4 | <0.0001 | 0.41 |
| Orthopedic surgery | 9 | 112 | 103 | -1.39 (-1.67, -1.11) | 9.70 | <0.0001 | -1.13 (-1.85, -0.40) | 3.03 | 0.002 | 28.65 | 79.1 | <0.0001 | 0.66 |
| Liver surgery | 3 | 182 | 186 | 0.68 (0.40, 0.95) | 4.74 | <0.0001 | 0.07 (-1.61, 1.76) | 0.09 | 0.931 | 51.78 | 96.1 | <0.0001 | 2.09 |
| Maxillofacial surgery | 3 | 40 | 41 | -2.93 (-3.59, -2.27) | 8.66 | <0.0001 | -2.93 (-3.59, -2.27) | 8.66 | <0.0001 | 0.00 | NA | NA | <0.0001 |
| Major general surgery | 2 | 20 | 20 | -0.46 (-2.17, 1.25) | 0.53 | 0.599 | -0.46 (-2.17, 1.25) | 0.53 | 0.599 | 0.00 | NA | NA | <0.0001 |
| Vascular surgery | 1 | 20 | 19 | -2.66 (-3.61, -1.71) | 5.51 | <0.0001 | -2.66 (-3.61, -1.71) | 5.51 | <0.0001 | 0.00 | NA | NA | <0.0001 |
| Neurosurgery | 1 | 17 | 17 | -0.50 (-0.11, 0.01) | 1.62 | 0.105 | -0.05 (-0.11, 0.01) | 1.62 | 0.105 | 0.00 | NA | NA | <0.0001 |
| **Transfusion protocol** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 28 | 748 | 727 | -0.26 (-0.31, -0.21) | 10.31 | <0.0001 | -0.76 (-1.09, -0.42) | 4.41 | <0.0001 | 502.76 | 95.2 | <0.0001 | 0.57 |
| No | 3 | 149 | 150 | -2.34 (-2.85, -1.83) | 9.00 | <0.0001 | -2.58 (-3.65, -1.50) | 4.70 | <0.0001 | 8.07 | 75.2 | 0.018 | 0.67 |
| **Volume of withdrawn blood** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <500 ml | 5 | 165 | 151 | -0.18 (-0.23, -0.12) | 6.03 | <0.0001 | -1.04 (-1.79, -0.29) | 2.72 | 0.007 | 172.34 | 97.7 | <0.0001 | 0.66 |
| 500-1000 ml | 13 | 339 | 339 | -1.12 (-1.26, -0.97) | 14.87 | <0.0001 | -1.35 (-1.95, -0.75) | 4.40 | <0.0001 | 114.95 | 91.3 | <0.0001 | 0.81 |
| 1000-2000 ml | 7 | 163 | 158 | -1.17 (-1.46, -0.88) | 7.85 | <0.0001 | -1.12 (-1.73, -0.52) | 3.62 | <0.0001 | 20.89 | 71.3 | 0.002 | 0.43 |
| >2000 ml | 2 | 102 | 106 | 1.23 (0.91, 1.56) | 7.40 | <0.0001 | 0.57 (-1.18, 2.33) | 0.64 | 0.522 | 9.88 | 89.9 | 0.002 | 1.46 |

N+: The number of exposure to allogeneic red blood cell transfusion; Total, The number of the total patients; WMD, Weighted mean difference.