

Appendix

The total blood loss was calculated applying the Gross formula²¹:

$$\text{Total blood loss} = \text{PBV} \times (\text{Hct}_{\text{pre}} - \text{Hct}_{\text{post}}) / \text{Hct}_{\text{ave}}$$

PBV = predicted blood volume

Hct_{pre} = the initial preoperative hematocrit level

Hct_{post} = the lowest postoperative hematocrit level during hospitalization or the lowest postoperative hematocrit prior to blood transfusion

Hct_{ave} = the average of the Hct_{pre} and Hct_{post}

The PBV was assessed according to the formula of Nadler et al.²²:

$\text{PBV (mL)} = k_1 \times \text{height (m)} + k_2 \times \text{weight (kg)} + k_3$; $k_1 = 0.3669$, $k_2 = 0.03219$, and $k_3 = 0.6041$ for men; $k_1 = 0.3561$, $k_2 = 0.03308$, and $k_3 = 0.1833$ for women. If a reinfusion or an allogeneic transfusion is performed, the volume transfused should be added when calculating total blood loss.