

Permission to print:	Yes
Category	Circuit disruption
Near Miss or Accident	Accident
Type of incident:	Equipment
Knowledge Error	No
Rule Error	No
Skill Error	No
Violation	No

Description: CPB was initiated and the Xclamp was put on immediately. The perfusionist noticed a small spot of blood on floor. The thermistor had blood on it and the Y connector Post ALF was observed to be leaking. The connector was tightened, with only a marginal improvement noted in the leak. The connector was cracked and continued to leak. Cardioplegia delivery was continued whilst the appropriate course of action was discussed with the surgeon.

Contributing factors: The failure to detect the leak during recirculation, prime recirculated at lower pressures seen during CPB.

Corrective action: It was decided by the team that circulatory arrest at 32 deg to replace the connector would be unsuitable due to the age and surgical risk factors attributed to the patient. The patient was rewamed and the X-Clamp removed. The patient was weaned off CPB to facilitate the replacement of the damaged Y connector. Upon amendment the case resumed and CPB was reinitiated. Felt this was a better corrective action.

Preventative action plan: The simulation of a higher line pressures during priming to test integrity of components under a of CPB.

Manufacturer advised:	No
Discussed with team:	Yes
Ext Authority Advised	No
Hospital incident filed:	No
Patient outcome variance	Nil