Permission to print: Yes

Category blood loss
Near Miss or Accident Accident
Type of incident: Management

Knowledge Error No
Rule Error Yes
Skill Error Yes
Violation No

Description: Post arterial cannulation and Pre-CPB, the cap on a port on the arterial cannula popped off. The CPB pump was off at the time. The arterial line pressure from the patient resulted in it coming off the port and spraying blood on the floor.

Contributing factors: The arterial cannula cap had not been adequately tightened during cannulation. The patient had crashed during anaesthetic induction, [suspected anaphyaxsis] this resulted in haste to stablise the patient and prepare for a potential CPB crash on.

Corrective action: The surgeon clamped the arterial line off to the patient and re-capped the arterial line.

Preventative action plan: Vigilance of caps and ports on cannulas.

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