Permission to print: Yes

Category Circuit disruption

Near Miss or Accident Accident
Type of incident: Management

Knowledge Error Yes
Rule Error No
Skill Error No
Violation No

Description: For a regular bypass case the new S5 Stockert pump was started and patient was put on a bypass for a regular CABG case. After 10secs or so the main arterial pump stopped working due to the activation of a bubble alarm. The alarm setting were changed from medium to small but that did not start the pump. So bubble alarm was turned off; alarm was cleared and pump started working.

Contributing factors: The bubble alarm setting was set at the "small" embolus setting that can activate the alarm/pump stop on exposure to the first blood contact by the sensor at te start of CPB. The machine was new to the operator. Advice to set the alarm to a higher setting for the first minutes of CPB had not been followed.

Corrective action: Changed the settings and turned the alarm off and on

Preventative action plan: Confirm the selection at medium settings for bubble detector for the initiation of CPB then reset to small

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