

Permission to print:	Yes
Category	myocardial protection
Near Miss or Accident	Accident
Type of incident:	Management
Knowledge Error	No
Rule Error	Yes
Skill Error	Yes
Violation	No

Description: On giving the second dose of 4:1 Blood cardioplegia (Adult MVR) the delivery pressures at the patient (coronary sinus and then aortic root) were low. Line pressure appeared normal. Induction cardioplegia had been routine. When the cardioplegia line was disconnected from the cannula and the pump (Stockert S3) run, the blood flow was pulsing not continuous. Occlusions were checked but the pulse flow continued. The cross clamp was removed. The cardioplegia tubing was removed from the raceway and reset the pump restarted when it was noticed that some air had appeared below the crystalloid solution bag due to the spike in the cardioplegia bag obstructing as it was not fully engaged in the bag.

Contributing factors: Obstructed cardioplegia solution outflow intermittently restricting flow.

Corrective action: Check pump occlusions then fully engage cardioplegia set spike into bag

Preventative action plan: Use cardioplegia check list as a reference for the solution bags being fully spiked

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