2020 Air in circuit 2

Permission to print: Yes
Incident type: Good Catch No Harm Incident
Category: Air in circuit
Type of incident: Management
Duration of incident: minutes
Description: Came off bypass and the surgeon clamped the aortic line to transduce pressure directly from [arterial] cannula. Several minutes later instructed [by the surgeon] to start MUF. Immediately the oxygenator filled with air and bubble alarm started going off. [The surgeon had not removed the clamp on the arterial line] Immediately stopped the MUF and clamped the line to the patient, opened all recirc lines and deaired the circuit. It was decided that we would not continue with MUF as patient had a good HCT coming off bypass.

GOOD CATCH - what went well: Bubble alarm worked as it was hard to see air in oxygenator as light were down in OR, immediately clamped off to patient and started recirculating

What could we do better: Better communication between the surgeon and perfusionist about readiness to commence MUF - eg all lines clear

Preventive actions: Double check with the surgeon that no clamp is on aortic cannula before commencing MUF

Hospital incident filed: No
Ext Authority Advised: No
Discussed with team: Yes
Manufacturer advised: No
Protocol issue: No
Rule issue: Yes
Skill issue: Yes
Team Issue: Yes