

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Blood Bank and Diabetes Screening

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TO THE EDITOR

The publication entitled “The Blood Bank for Diabetes Screening: a Feasible Alternative?” is very interesting. The attempt of Anghebem-Oliveira et al. should be applauded. The public health advantage according to the implementation of diabetes screening in the blood bank is acceptable. Nevertheless, there are both technical and policy concerns. First, the donated blood is usually collected and treated with specific anticoagulant (citrate phosphate dextrose adenine-formula 1; CPDA-1) which is not generally used for HbA1C analysis. The effect of different anticoagulants on the measurement of HbA1C is an interesting technical concern [2]. Second, for resource limited countries, the implementation of any new screening for blood banks usually requires confirmation on the cost and utility. Despite the possibility that the screening might be useful, in resource limited countries with a lack of public health vision, the possible question is who will pay for the additional cost of screening that is not directly related to the blood bank work.

Declaration of Interest:

None.

References:

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KEY WORDS

blood bank, diabetes, screening

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