Appendix

The total blood loss was calculated applying the Gross formula:\textsuperscript{21}

\[ \text{Total blood loss} = \text{PBV} \times \frac{(\text{Hct}_{\text{pre}} - \text{Hct}_{\text{post}})}{\text{Hct}_{\text{ave}}} \]

\( \text{PBV} = \text{predicted blood volume} \)
\( \text{Hct}_{\text{pre}} = \text{the initial preoperative hematocrit level} \)
\( \text{Hct}_{\text{post}} = \text{the lowest postoperative hematocrit level during hospitalization or the lowest postoperative hematocrit prior to blood transfusion} \)
\( \text{Hct}_{\text{ave}} = \text{the average of the Hct}_{\text{pre}} \text{ and Hct}_{\text{post}} \)

The PBV was assessed according to the formula of Nadler et al.\textsuperscript{22}

\[ \text{PBV (mL)} = k_1 \times \text{height (m)} + k_2 \times \text{weight (kg)} + k_3 \]

\( k_1 = 0.3669, k_2 = 0.03219, \text{ and } k_3 = 0.6041 \text{ for men}; \)
\( k_1 = 0.3561, k_2 = 0.03308, \text{ and } k_3 = 0.1833 \text{ for women}. \)

If a reinfusion or an allogeneic transfusion is performed, the volume transfused should be added when calculating total blood loss.