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## Managing Hemostasis in Trauma Acute Coagulopathy of Trauma/Shock

# ACOTS

**NovoSeven® Efficacy and Risk  
Cyclokapron (tranexamic acid)**



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## Death by Trauma: Statistics

- Unintended or intentional injury are the most common cause of death in N Americans age 1–45
  - 93,000/year in the USA
  - 3,000,000 worldwide, but exceeded by AIDS deaths
- 50% of trauma deaths are caused by neurological displacement and occur before reaching hospital
- 20,000 die in hospital of *exsanguination* within 48 hours
  - 30–35% of blood loss with uncompensated shock is fatal
  - 3–4,000 of US hemorrhage deaths are preventable
  - Coagulopathy, failure to achieve hemostasis

Boffard KD, Chooq PIT, Kloger Y, et al. The treatment of bleeding is to stop the bleeding! Treatment of trauma-related hemorrhage. On behalf of the NovoSeven Trauma Study Group. Transfusion 2009; 49:240–7S.

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## CDC: WISQARS\*

10 Leading Causes of Death, United States  
2007, All Races, Both Sexes

Rank	Age Groups										
	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Congenital Anomalies 1,769	Heart Disease 4,817	Congenital Anomalies 1,561	Heart Disease 4,817	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278	Heart Disease 13,278
2	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453	Stroke 2,453
3	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,770
4	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153	Unintentional Falls 1,153
5	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153	Heart Disease 1,153
6	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992
7	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992
8	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992
9	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992
10	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992	Diabetes Mellitus 71,992

Produced by: Office of Statistics and Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Data Source: National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics System

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## 24-YO ♂, GSW in ED

A 24-YO male arrived in the ED with a gunshot wound causing massive abdominal trauma. He had been given three units of Dextran® in transit to achieve fluid resuscitation but was hemorrhaging. ED personnel ordered and administered four RBC units. Upon the second RBC four-unit batch order the transfusion service director recommended one plasma and one peresis platelet concentrate. After 8 RBCs, 1 plasma, and 1 platelet, still bleeding, labs were:

PT: 20.8 s (Mean of RI 12.9); PTT: 82.5 s (MRI 30.1)  
FG: 130 mg/dL (225-498 mg/dL); PLTs: 70,000/mcL


Current Typical Approach to ACOTS

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## 24-YO W♂, GSW in ED

In surgery, major vessels were tied, but the field was obscured by microvascular bleeds. The patient went into shock and expired.



Thanks to Margaret Fritsma, Mary Anne Krupsky, Michelle Brown, Birmingham, AL and Jose De Jesus, Tuscaloosa, AL for information on which this case is based.

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## American Society of Anesthesiologists Surgical Practice Guidelines: RBCs

- Monitor BP, pulse, ABG (pH, O<sub>2</sub> sat), urine output, EKG when feasible
- Monitor physical blood loss
- Transfuse when HGB <6 g/dL in young, healthy patient
- Do not transfuse when HGB >10 g/dL
- Transfuse based on acuity and clinical history when HGB 6–10 g/dL
  - O<sub>2</sub> sat, tissue ischemia, bleeding rate, IV volume replacement, evidence for coagulopathy
- Autotransfuse (recovery) when feasible

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### American Society of Anesthesiologists Practice Guidelines: *Coagulopathy*

- Assess surgical field for microvascular bleeding
  - Suction canisters, surgical sponges, surgical drains
- Platelet concentrate transfusion
  - No platelets if count is >100,000/mcL
  - “Usually” give platelets if <50,000/mcL, unless...
    - Limited blood loss is anticipated based on type of surgery
    - If thrombocytopenia is due to HIT, ITP, or TTP, where platelets may be ineffective
  - From 50–100,000/mcL, use platelets if...
    - Potential of bleeding into confined space such as brain or eye
    - Aspirin, clopidogrel, cardiopulmonary bypass, platelet disorder

Duchesne JC, Holcomb JB. Damage control resuscitation: addressing traumatic hemorrhagic coagulopathy. Br J Hosp Med (Lond) 2009; 70: 22–5.  
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### American Society of Anesthesiologists Practice Guidelines: *Coagulopathy*

- Do not use plasma only to augment volume, use colloid plasma expanders
- Give plasma if microvascular bleeding...
  - And PT >1.5X normal (“normal” is undefined),
  - Or PTT >2X normal,
  - Or when transfused with >1 blood volume (~70 mL/kg),
  - Or need for urgent reversal of warfarin therapy,
  - Or known factor deficiency & concentrate is unavailable,
  - Or heparin resistance (antithrombin deficiency).
- Dosage is 10–15 mL plasma/kg to achieve ≥30% factor concentration
  - Or 5–8 mL/kg if only for warfarin reversal

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### American Society of Anesthesiologists Practice Guidelines: *Coagulopathy*

- CRYO when there is microvascular bleeding and...
  - Fibrinogen <100 mg/dL or documented deficiency,
  - Or massive transfusions without opportunity to determine fibrinogen level
- CRYO delivers 150–250 mg fibrinogen
- Consider recombinant activated factor VII (NovoSeven, rFVIIa) when RBCs, PLTs, plasma and CRYO fail

Practice guidelines for perioperative blood transfusion and adjuvant therapies: an updated report by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Task Force on Perioperative Blood Transfusion and Adjuvant Therapies. Anesthesiology 2006; 105: 198–206.  
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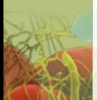


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### Massive Tx requirement is likely in young, healthy combat casualties when...

- Systolic <110 mm Hg
- Pulse >105
- pH <7.25
- HCT <32%
- HGB <10 g/dL
- INR >1.5 (Is INR the correct measure?)

McLaughlin DF, Niles SE, Salinas J, et al. A predictive model for massive transfusion in combat casualty patients. J Trauma 2008;64:S57–63.  
 Schreiber MA, Perkins J, Kinsly L, et al. Early predictors of massive transfusion in combat casualties. J Am Coll Surg 2007;205:541–5  
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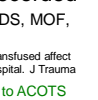


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### RBC/Plasma 1:1?


- USA hospital in Baghdad Green Zone
  - Retrospective w/o controls but extensive, accurate data
  - Tx >2000 wounded, massively Tx >600 wounded
- Ratio and results
  - Receiving <1 plasma for every 4 RBCs: 65% mortality
    - Confounding data: soldiers who received >10 RBCs but died before plasma could thaw are counted in this arm
  - Receiving 2 plasma for every 3 RBCs: 19% mortality
    - Surgeons report less bleeding and edema
  - Now implementing 1:1 plasma/RBC Rx
- Anticipated adverse effects; none recorded
  - Plasma supply (yes), TRALI, anaphylaxis, ARDS, MOF, thrombosis

Borgman MA, Spinella PC, Perkins JG, et al. The ratio of blood products transfused affect mortality in patients receiving massive transfusions in a combat support hospital. J Trauma 2007; 63: 905–13.  
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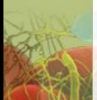
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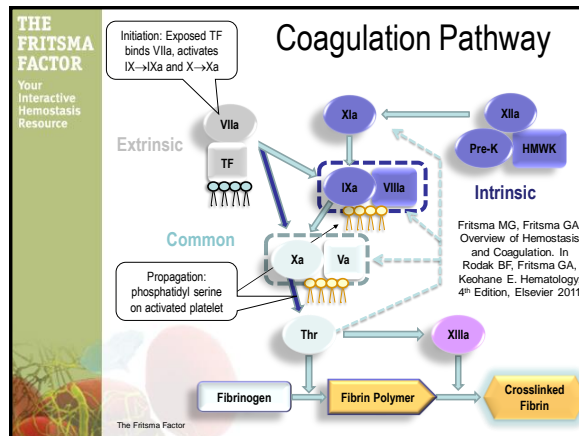
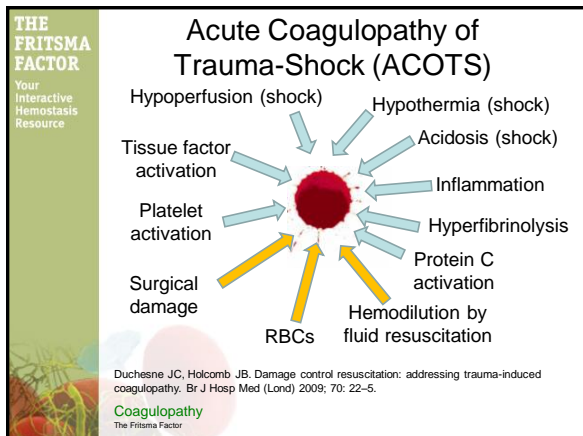
### Massive Trauma With Hemorrhagic Shock



**Figure 2.** Severely injured patients can present with coagulopathy at the time of hospital admission. This soldier arrived in hemorrhagic shock and required massive transfusion with packed red blood cells (pRBC), coagulation products, and whole blood. Tourniquets were placed on the patient’s thighs in the field to minimize blood loss.

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### Injury Severity Score (ISS)

Region	Description (Examples)	Injury Score (1-6)	Highest 3 Squared
Head & neck	Cerebral contusion	3 (Serious)	9
Face	Scratches	1 (Minor)	
Chest	Sucking wound	4 (Severe)	16
Abdomen	Liver contusion Spleen rupture	2 (Moderate) 5 (Critical)	25
Extremity	Fractured femur	3 (Serious)	
Total ISS			50

Maximum is 75. If an injury is assigned a score of 6 (un survivable), the ISS is automatically 75. The ISS is the only anatomical scoring system in use and correlates linearly with mortality, morbidity and hospital stay.

Baker SP, et al. The injury severity score: a method for describing patients with multiple injuries and evaluating emergency care. *J Trauma* 1974;14:187-96

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### Probability of Life-threatening Coagulopathy

Condition (n = 58, >10 RBCs)	Percent Coagulopathy
Injury severity score (ISS) >25 alone	10%
ISS >25 & systolic BP <70 mm Hg	39%
ISS >25 & body temp <34°C	49%
ISS >25 & pH <7.10	58%
ISS >25; SBP <70 mm Hg; body temp <34°C	85%
ISS >25; SBP <70 mm Hg; temp <34°C; pH <7.10	98%

Life-threatening coagulopathy is arbitrarily defined as PT and PTT >2X mean of reference interval

Cosgriff N, Moore EE, Sauaia A, et al. Predicting life-threatening coagulopathy in the massively transfused trauma patient: hypothermia and acidosis revisited. *J Trauma* 1997;42:857-862

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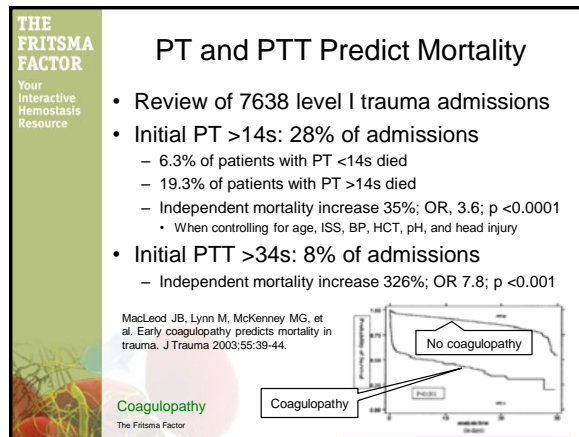
### Coagulopathy in Trauma

ISS & Coagulopathy n = 1088	% Coagulopathy by Lab Assay
Injury severity score (ISS) >15; median 20	57.7%
Injury severity score <15	10.9%
Coagulopathy at Admission	% Mortality
Yes (24.4%)	46%
No	10.9%
Overall mortality	19.5%

Coagulopathy defined prior to & independent of fluid replacement as: PT >18s, 16.3%; PTT >60s, 24.4%; or thrombin time >15s, 14.2%

Brohi K, Singh J, Heron M, Coats T. Acute traumatic coagulopathy. *J Trauma* 2003; 54: 1127-30

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### Definition and "Drivers" of ACOTS

- Retrospective cohort study
  - 3646 trauma patients at 5 international trauma centers
- Prothrombin time ratio >1.2
  - Mortality 22.7% Vs. 7.0%,  $p < 0.001$
  - RBCs 3.5 Vs. 1.2 units,  $p < 0.001$
  - Plasma 2.1 Vs. 0.8 units,  $p < 0.001$
- ACOTS defined as PTR >1.2 correlates with ISS and shock
- Confirmed using rat model (not described)

Frith D, Goslings JC, Gaarder C, et al. Definition and drivers of acute traumatic coagulopathy: clinical and experimental investigations. *J Thromb Haemost* 2010;8: 1919-25.

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### Recombinant Activated Factor VII

- Pre-1980 (and still available)
  - Prothrombin complex concentrates (PCC) extracted from human plasma using  $\text{Ba}_2\text{SO}_4$  adsorption: Proplex®
    - Factors II, VII, IX, and X, once used for IX deficiency patients
  - Activated PCC for FVIII or FIX deficiency with inhibitors
    - FEIBA FH®
    - Variant efficacy traced to FVIIa activity
- 1980: Extract FVIIa from human plasma
  - Kisiel, Broze
- 1983: Compassionate use in two humans
- 1988: Novo Nordisk®, Bagsvaerd, Denmark, undertook to synthesize rFVIIa
- March 25, 1999: FDA releases NovoSeven® rFVIIa

Kisiel W. Recollections on the discovery of factor VIIa as a novel therapeutic agent for hemophiliacs with inhibitors. *J Thromb Haemost* 2009;7:1053-6.  
Broze GJ, Majerus PW. Purification and properties of human coagulation factor VII. *J Biol Chem* 1980;255:1242-7.

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### FEIBA FH Dosages

- Activated prothrombin complex concentrate
  - Activated II (thrombin), VII, IX, and X

Indication	Dose
Joint bleeding	50 units/kg every 12 h
Mucous membrane bleeding	50 units/kg every 6 h
Muscle bleeding	100 units/kg every 12 h

To avoid DIC, FEIBA FH dose may not exceed 200 units/kg in 24 hours and infusion rate may not exceed 2 units/kg/minute

There is no test to monitor FEIBA. The patient's clinical response, e. g., bleeding or hematoma size, is the only guide.

Cost \$0.50/unit, single Rx for a 70 kg patient is \$1750

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### rFVIIa; NovoSeven

- Secreted from baby hamster kidney cells, proteolytically converted to two-chain active form
- Limitation:  $\gamma$ -carboxylation of 2/3 of glutamic acids at amino terminus
  - Seems to be enough  $\gamma$ -carboxylated GLUs
  - Requires coexpressed  $\gamma$ -glutamyl carboxylase
  - Requires vitamin K

~12 GLU molecules  
~8 become GLA

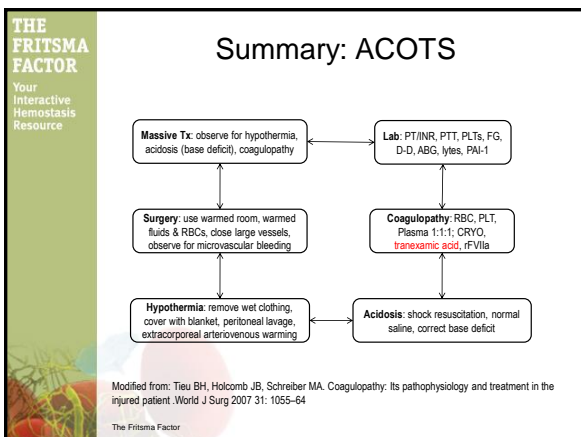
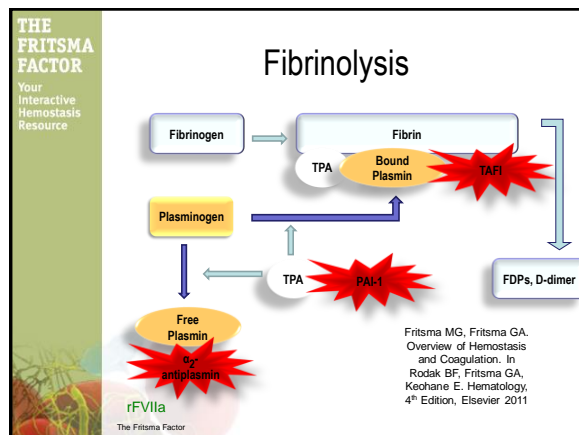
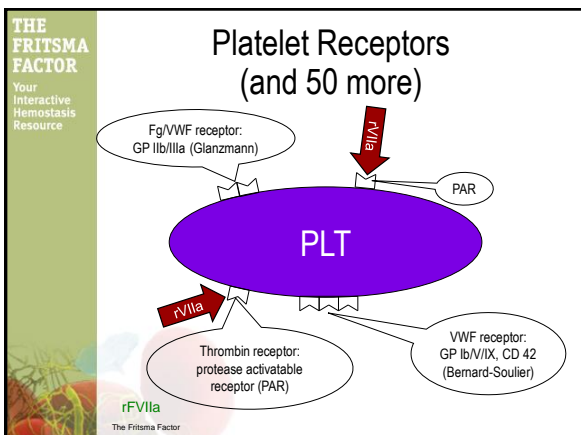
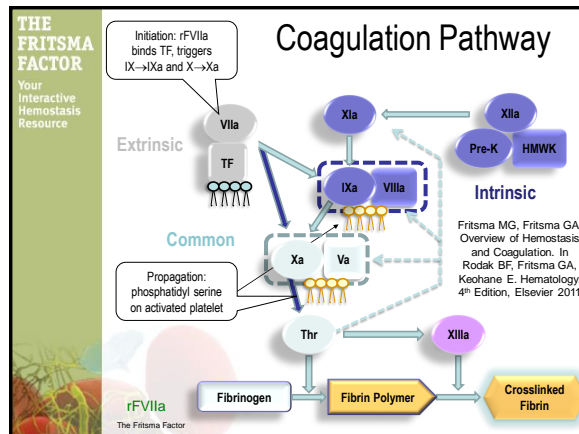
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### Physiology of rFVIIa & Tissue Factor

- rFVIIa binds TF of injured vessels, activating FX; FXa binds FV; activates II→IIa; generates fibrin
- rFVIIa activates platelets directly through thrombin receptors and triggers primary coagulation even in Glanzmann thrombasthenia
- rFVIIa activates *thrombin activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor* (TAFI), simultaneously reduces fibrinolysis
- rFVIIa hemostatic action is localized by TF
  - FEIBA functions systemically
  - DIC risk is negligible

Mathew P, Young G. Recombinant factor VIIa in paediatric bleeding disorders—a 2006 review. *Haemophilia* 2006;12:457–72.  
Hedner U, Kisiel W. Use of human factor VIIa in the treatment of two hemophilia A patients with high-titer inhibitors. *J Clin Invest* 1983;71:1836–41.  
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### rFVIIa 3/25/99 FDA Indications

- Bleeding episode Rx in hemophilia A or B with inhibitors or in acquired hemophilia
- Bleeding prevention in invasive procedures in hemophilia A or B with inhibitors or acquired hemophilia
- Bleeding Rx in congenital FVII deficiency
- Bleeding prevention in invasive procedures in congenital FVII deficiency

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### rFVIIa Dosages Cleared by FDA

Cleared Indication	IV Bolus Dose
Hemophilia A or B or acquired hemophilia with inhibitor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bleeding episode</li> </ul>	90 mcg/kg every 2 h until hemostasis is achieved
Hemophilia A or B or acquired hemophilia with inhibitor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surgery</li> </ul>	90 mcg/kg immediately before and every 2 h during surgery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-surgery</li> <li>minor</li> </ul>	90 mcg/kg every 2 h for 48 h, then every 2–6 h until healed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-surgery</li> <li>major</li> </ul>	90 mcg/kg every 2 h for 5 d then every 2 h until healed
Congenital FVII deficiency—bleeding episode or surgery	15–30 mcg/kg every 4–6 h until healed
Acquired hemophilia—bleeding episode or surgery	70–90 mcg/kg every 2–3 h until hemostasis is achieved

Cost \$1.00/mcg, single Rx for a 70 kg patient is \$6300

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### Off-label Applications for NovoSeven

- Cardiac, thoracic, aortic and spinal surgery; hepatic resection; hysterectomy or post-partum bleeding
- Severe multiple trauma
- Non-traumatic intracranial hemorrhage if <4 hours from onset
- Reversal of antithrombotic (warfarin) overdose

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### Off-label Guidelines for NovoSeven

- Evaluate underlying disorder
- Evaluate salvageability of the patient
- Ensure no inherent thrombophilia, prior AMI or stroke
- Exhaust current treatment options
  - RBCs, plasma, PLTs, CRYO
- Document amount of blood products used
- Ensure pH >7.25

Mathew P, Simon TL, Hunt KE, Crookston KP. How we manage requests for recombinant factor VIIa (NovoSeven). *Transfusion* 2007;47:8–14.

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### Generalized Off-label Guidelines for NovoSeven

- Always offer rFVIIa when bleeding continues after conventional Tx therapy
  - RBC, plasma, platelets, and CRYO
  - rFVIIa doesn't work when coagulation factors <30%
  - 40–90 mcg/kg in adults for all emergent scenarios
- Contraindicated in previous thrombosis
  - Stroke: ensure it is intracranial hemorrhage
  - Assume no thrombosis in young trauma victims
- 20–40 mcg/kg in non-emergent warfarin reversal


Personal communication, R. Sarode, MD, Director, Transfusion Medicine and Hemostasis Reference Laboratory, UT Southwestern MC, Dallas, TX

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### Off Label Use in Trauma: 2005

- Israeli soldier with bleeding rescued by rFVIIa
- Approved by USA surgeon general for battlefield
- Case reports of efficacy and research protocols by Col. John B. Holcomb, MD
  - Commander of the US Army Institute of Surgical Research, Ft Sam Houston, TX, and Trauma Consultant for The Army Surgeon General



Allen JA, Benner K, Green K, et al. Pediatric off-label use of recombinant factor VIIa. *Pediatrics* 2009;123:1066–72.  
 Levi M, Peters M, Buller HR. Efficacy and safety of recombinant factor VIIa for treatment of severe bleeding: a systematic review. *Crit Care Med* 2005;33:883–90.  
 Taboulis J, Theodore S, Meswani M, et al. Safe use of recombinant activated factor VIIa for recalcitrant postoperative haemorrhage in cardiac surgery. *Interact Cardiovasc Thorac Surg* 2009;9:459–62.  
 Martinowitz U, Michaelson M. Guidelines for the use of recombinant activated factor VII (rFVIIa) in uncontrolled bleeding: a report by the Israeli Multidisciplinary rFVIIa Task Force. *J Thromb Haemost* 2005;3:640–8.

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### Spinella: Iraq Combat Trauma

- Retrospective case-control study of 124 severe Iraq combat trauma patients
  - ≥10 units RBCs/24h
- Determine if rFVIIa reduces 24 h and 30 d mortality
- Determine association of rFVIIa with severe VTE

One 120 mcg/kg dose	Means	
	75 Controls	49 rFVIIa
RBC (units)	14	16
Plasma (units)	8	10
Fresh whole blood (units)	0	4
Cryo (units)	0	10

Spinella PC, Perkins JG, McLaughlin DF, et al. The effect of recombinant activated factor VII on mortality in combat-related casualties with severe trauma and massive transfusion. *J Trauma* 2008; 4: 286–93.

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### Spinella: Mortality Rate in Iraq

All-cause Mortality	75 Controls	49 rFVIIa	P
12 h	25 (33%)	6 (12%)	.008
24 h (cumulative)	26 (35%)	7 (14%)	.01
30 d (cumulative)	38 (51%)	15 (31%)	.03
Thromboembolism	0	2	.15
37 patients died from hemorrhage	29 (78%)	8 (57%)	.12

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### Harrison: General Trauma

- Prospective study of rFVIIa-treated trauma patients matched to historic controls
- Mortality rates 41% in rFVIIa, 40% in controls (NS)
- Thromboemboli in 6.9% of rFVIIa, 19.7% of controls; (P=0.2)

1-2 40 mcg/kg doses	Means (SD not shown)	P
Transfusion	72 Controls 29 Cases	
RBC (units)	22.0 18.3	.036
Plasma (units)	14.1 14.2	NS
PLT (5-pack units)	2.3 1.4	.01
Cryo (5-pack units)	1.5 0.59	.006

Harrison TD, Laskosky J, Jazezi O, et al. "Low-dose" recombinant activated factor VII results in less blood and blood product use in traumatic hemorrhage. J Trauma 2005; 59: 150-4.  
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### Holcomb: Tx Requirements: 48 Hours After First Dose of rFVIIa

	Placebo		rFVIIa		P
	N	Median	N	Median	
RBC (units)	65	6.6	48	2.9	<0.001
Plasma (mL)	54	1400	35	660	0.001
PLT (mL)	62	300	46	50	0.01

- Incidence of MOF or ARDS was 20% for placebo, 3% for rFVIIa, P=.004
- Incidence of thromboembolic events was 4% for placebo and 3% for rFVIIa, P=1.00

Duchesne JC, Holcomb JB. Damage control resuscitation: addressing trauma-induced coagulopathy. Br J Hosp Med 2009;70: 22-5.  
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### For Patients Alive at 48 Hours

Median RBC Units					
Blunt Trauma			Penetrating Trauma		
Placebo	rFVIIa	P	Placebo	rFVIIa	P
7.5 (n=72)	7.0 (n=52)	.02*	4.2 (n=52)	3.9 (n=64)	.10

ARDS or Multi-organ Failure					
Blunt Trauma			Penetrating Trauma		
Placebo	rFVIIa	P	Placebo	rFVIIa	P
49 (66%)	44 (64%)	NS	36 (56%)	36 (51%)	NS

Thromboembolic Events					
Blunt Trauma			Penetrating Trauma		
Placebo	rFVIIa	P	Placebo	rFVIIa	P
3 (4%)	2 (3%)	NS	3 (5%)	4 (6%)	NS

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### FDA Reports Thromboembolic Events

Divs. of Epidemiology and Hematology collected adverse event data 3/25/99-12/31/04, all US and non-US patients including post-licensure clinical trials

**Figure 1.** Estimated Number of Patients Treated With Recombinant Human Coagulation Factor VIIa by Year

**Table 1.** Number of Thromboembolic Event Reports With Use of rFVIIa by Report Source and Reason for Use and Bleeding Status

Reason for use	No. of Reports (%)	
	Trial (n = 59)	Spontaneous (n = 109)
Surgery (Bleeding or prophylaxis)	27 (46)	48 (44)
Intraaortic bleeding	19 (32)	5 (4)
Bleeding, nonsurgical	8 (14)	25 (24)
Trauma, nonsurgical	5 (9)	9 (8)
Hemophilia	0	17 (16)
Unknown*	0	4 (4)
Bleeding status		
Active Bleeding	35 (59)	80 (73)
Prophylaxis	24 (41)	22 (20)
Unknown**	0	7 (7)

Abbreviation: rFVIIa, recombinant human coagulation factor VIIa.  
\*Indicates no information about reason for use or whether patient was bleeding or not.

O'Connell KA, Wood JJ, Wise RP, et al. Thromboembolic adverse events after use of recombinant human coagulation factor VIIa. JAMA 2006;295:293-8.  
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### Thrombotic Events and Deaths

168 reports: 183 thrombotic events, 52 deaths

**Figure 3.** Number of Thromboembolic Event Reports With Recombinant Human Coagulation Factor VIIa Reported to FDA by Source and Year

**Figure 4.** Number of Reported Deaths Among Patients Administered Recombinant Human Coagulation Factor VIIa With a Thromboembolic Event by Year and Source

FDA Indicates US Food and Drug Administration. Some reports had more than 1 thromboembolic event.  
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## Thrombotic Event Sites

Site	Number (%)
Ischemic stroke	39 (21.3%)
Acute myocardial infarction	34 (18.6%)
Peripheral artery occlusion	26 (14.2%)
Deep venous thrombosis	42 (22.9%)
Pulmonary embolus	32 (17.5%)
Occluded line	10 (5.5%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>183 (100%)</b>
Patients in 5-y survey	~10,700
Rate of thrombotic events	0.017%


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## London Times, September 17, 2006

### "Wounded Iraq Troops Given Danger Drug"

"The Ministry of Defense has been accused of playing 'Russian roulette' with soldiers' lives after it admitted using an unlicensed drug linked to 67 deaths in America. Troops suffering severe injuries in Iraq have been treated with NovoSeven®, a drug licensed only for hemophiliacs."



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**Warning: Serious thrombotic adverse events are associated with the use of NovoSeven® RT outside labeled indications**

Adrenal and venous thrombotic and thromboembolic events following administration of NovoSeven® have been reported during postmarketing surveillance. Clinical studies have shown an increased risk of adrenal thromboembolic adverse events in NovoSeven® RT when administered outside the current approved indications. Fatal and non-fatal thrombotic events have been reported. Discuss the risks and explain the signs and symptoms of thrombotic and thromboembolic events to patients who will receive NovoSeven® RT. Monitor patients for signs or symptoms of activation of the coagulation system and for thrombosis. See **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS** section of prescribing information.

**Safety and efficacy of NovoSeven® RT has not been established outside the approved indications.**

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## Novo Nordisk Phase 2 Trial

- Multicenter prospective randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial evaluated effect of rFVIIa on RBC transfusion requirements in patients with blunt or penetrating trauma
- 277 patients, 143 blunt, 134 penetrating
  - Criteria: required 6 RBC units within 4 hours of admission
- Placebo or rFVIIa at 0 h (200 mcg/kg), 1 h (100 mcg/kg), and 3 h (100 mcg/kg)
- Adverse events: adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), multi-organ failure (MOF) and thromboembolic events (TE)

Bruder E, Howes DW. rFVIIa in trauma: A review and opinion-based guidelines. Trauma 2007; 9: 237-43.

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## rFVIIa Phase III Trial Withdrawal

Hauser CJ, Boffard KD, Dutton RP, et al. Efficacy and safety of recombinant activated factor VII in the management of hemorrhagic shock due to trauma. J Thromb Haemost 2009;7 (Suppl2):290-1.

**Background:** Hemorrhage contributes significantly to multiple organ failure (MOF) and death following severe injury. We performed a multicenter, international, placebo controlled Phase III trial to evaluate recombinant activated factor VII (rFVIIa) as an adjunct to standard hemostatic methods in trauma patients presenting in hemorrhagic shock. We assessed the safety of rFVIIa and its efficacy in improving survival, reducing blood loss, and decreasing MOF.

**Methods:** 573 actively bleeding patients (481 blunt, 92 penetrating), who had received 4-8 units of blood within 12 h of injury and had evidence of ongoing hemorrhagic shock were randomly assigned to receive rFVIIa (200 µg/kg at 0 h, 100 µg/kg at 1 h and 3 h) or placebo. Clinical care was standardized according to evidence-based guidelines. The primary outcome was 30-day mortality. Secondary outcomes included total allogeneic blood product transfusions and the incidence and duration of organ failure. Safety and clinical outcomes were assessed to 90 days.

**Results:** The study was terminated prematurely after 573 patients (1502 initially planned) because an unexpectedly low mortality rate (~10%) precluded demonstration of efficacy. No difference in 30-day mortality was observed ( $P = 0.93$ ). rFVIIa decreased total blood product use at 48 h compared with placebo in blunt trauma patients (23.5 vs. 19.0 units;  $P = 0.04$ ). There were no differences in the incidence or duration of organ failure ( $P = 0.09$ ). There were no differences in adverse events, including thromboembolic events.

**Conclusions:** Treatment of blunt trauma patients in hemorrhagic shock with rFVIIa decreased blood product use without an observed increase in thromboembolic complications, but did not demonstrate improvement in organ system failure or mortality.

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## Baltimore Sun, May 16, 2010

### Federal agents probing Army's use of trauma drug

Criminal investigation looking at military's use of blood-clotting injections for treating war casualties

May 16, 2010 | By Robert Lize, The Baltimore Sun



Sun photo by Monica Lopez

Federal criminal investigators are exploring the Army's use of a controversial and expensive blood-clotting drug injected into wounded troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The drug, called Factor VII, was hailed as a lifesaving breakthrough by military leaders and administered to hundreds of soldiers and Marines earlier in the wars. It has since proved largely ineffective in clinical trials and been the subject of safety warnings by U.S. and European regulators, who say it can cause potentially deadly blood clots.

Within the past several weeks, agents from the Army's Criminal Investigation Command have interviewed scientists and officers at the Army's medical laboratory in San Antonio about Factor VII, according to military sources with knowledge of the investigation. Researchers in San Antonio were among the first to explore Factor VII's role in treating trauma patients and have produced some of the few scientific studies suggesting that the drug saves lives in combat.

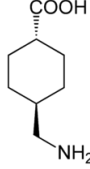

The manufacturer, the Danish drug company Novo Nordisk, said it had received a subpoena in January from the Defense Department's inspector general's office. Company officials said they are cooperating with the U.S. attorney's office in Baltimore, which is overseeing the investigation.

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## Tranexamic Acid (Cyclokapron) Rx

- Synthetic lysine blocks plasminogen binding sites
  - Cyclohexane carboxylic acid
- Reduces Tx requirements in surgery without raising mortality
- Aprotinin (trypsin inhibitor, anti-fibrinolytic) ineffective, withdrawn in 2008

CRASH-2 trial collaborators (570). Effects of tranexamic acid on death, vascular occlusive events, and blood transfusion in trauma patients with significant haemorrhage (CRASH-2): a randomised, placebo-controlled trial. The Lancet 2010; 376: 23-32

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### Tranexamic Acid Death by Cause

CRASH-2	TXA n = 10060	Placebo n = 10067	RR	p
<b>Any cause of death</b>	1463 (14.5%)	1613 (16%)	0.91	0.0035
<b>Bleeding death</b>	489 (4.9%)	574 (5.7%)	0.85	0.0077
<b>Vascular occlusion death</b>	33 (0.3%)	48 (0.5%)	0.69	0.096
<b>No dependency symptoms</b>	1483 (14.7%)	1334 (13.3%)	1.11	0.0023

- No significant differences:
  - MI, stroke, PE, DVT, blood products, surgery

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### All-cause Mortality by Subgroups

Subgroup	TXA allocated	Placebo allocated	Risk ratio (95% CI)
<b>Time from injury (h)</b>			
<4	593(32)(13.6%)	582(31)(15.7%)	0.87 (0.75-1.00)
4-12	453(32)(7.1%)	528(32)(6.2%)	0.87 (0.75-1.00)
>12	491(32)(6.6%)	503(32)(6.1%)	1.00 (0.88-1.17)
$\chi^2=4.13; p=0.13$			
<b>Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)</b>			
<90	720(67)(8.2%)	735(61)(7.9%)	0.94 (0.82-1.07)
75-89	2801(69)(7.5%)	3131(68)(8.5%)	0.88 (0.79-0.98)
>90	4076(162)(3.9%)	3521(99)(3.7%)	0.87 (0.76-0.99)
$\chi^2=1.34; p=0.51$			
<b>GCS</b>			
Score (3-8)	750(78)(10.4%)	850(83)(10.7%)	0.95 (0.86-1.04)
Moderate (9-12)	2101(34)(1.6%)	2491(34)(1.4%)	0.88 (0.79-0.98)
Severe (13-15)	440(16)(3.6%)	500(17)(4.3%)	0.88 (0.77-1.00)
$\chi^2=1.97; p=0.37$			
<b>Injury type</b>			
Blunt	1136(89)(7.8%)	1238(87)(7.0%)	0.97 (0.89-1.05)
Penetrating	329(32)(9.7%)	382(32)(9.7%)	0.88 (0.77-1.00)
$\chi^2=0.78; p=0.37$			
<b>All patients</b>	1463(100)(6.9%)	1613(100)(10.0%)	0.91 (0.85-0.97)*

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### Combat Tourniquets in Baghdad

- Prospective survey over 7 months in 2006
  - Military and civilian casualties: 2838
  - Major limb trauma requiring tourniquets: 232 (8%)
  - 428 tourniquets were applied on 309 injured limbs
  - Shock based on weak/absent radial pulse, base deficit

Tourniquet Applied:	Shock Absent	Shock Present	Sum
Pre-hospital	171/17 (91%)	1/5 (17%)	171/22
In ED	29/5 (85%)	0/4 (0%)	29/9
<b>Sum</b>	<b>200/22</b>	<b>1/9</b>	<b>201/31</b>

Alive/Dead; tourniquet use in absence of shock Vs not,  $p=0.4 \times 10^{-6}$ ; pre-hospital Vs ED tourniquet,  $p=0.06$

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### Combat Tourniquets in Baghdad

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### Combat Tourniquets in Baghdad

- Five casualties with tourniquet indication who had none used all died
- Four casualties (1.7%) sustained transient nerve palsy at site of tourniquet
- No amputations solely as a result of tourniquet use.

Kragh JF, Walters TJ, Baer DG, et al. Survival with emergency tourniquet: use to stop bleeding in major limb trauma. Ann Surg 2009; 249: 1-7

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### Survival in Afghanistan

**The New York Times**

- January 7, 2011
- Speedy evacuation
- Tourniquets
- Cyclokapron (tranexamic acid)
- NovoSeven (rVIIa)

Year	Total Casualties	Death Rate
2010	5,500	7.9%
2009	2,415	11%
2008	402	14.3%

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