

**The Fritsma Factor**  
YOUR INTERACTIVE HEMOSTASIS RESOURCE

Managing Hemostasis in Trauma-induced Coagulopathy

**TIC-TIC**  
Timing is Everything

Hemorrhage and Thrombosis

George A. Fritsma, MS MLS [www.fritsmafactor.com](http://www.fritsmafactor.com); [george@fritsmafactor.com](mailto:george@fritsmafactor.com)

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Objectives in Question Form

Q1: What is the death rate in the US and in the world?

Q2: What is the most common cause of premature death in the US and in the world?



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10 Leading Causes of US Death in 2020

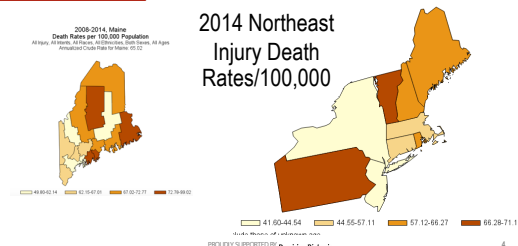


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2014 Northeast Injury Death Rates/100,000



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Years of Potential Life Lost [YPLL] Before Age 65

Cause of Death	Percent	YPLL
All Causes	948,426	100.0%
Unintentional Injury	199,903	21.1%
Suicide	52,265	5.5%
Homicide	48,190	5.1%
Malignant Neoplasms	137,221	14.5%
Heart Disease	107,009	11.3%
Perinatal Period	75,496	8.0%
Congenital Anomalies	43,615	4.6%
Cerebrovascular	21,817	2.3%
HIV	21,508	2.3%
Liver Disease	21,352	2.3%
All Others	220,050	23.2%

31.7%

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) accessed 5-19-14. [www.cdc.gov/wisqars/](http://www.cdc.gov/wisqars/)

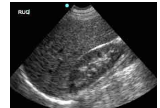
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US Injury Incidence

- 27,000,000 injury-related provider visits
- 45,000 die before reaching hospital: neurologic displacement
- 1,700,000 injury-related hospital admissions
- 1,000,000 are transferred to trauma centers, 93,000 die.
- 150,000 receive transfusion of blood or blood products
- 10,000 require massive Tx—10 RBC units/24 h, 40% die
- Half in hospital die in 4–6 h of hemorrhage
- Another 40% develop thrombosis after 24 hours
- Extent of injury is determined by...
  - whole body CT scan
  - focused abdominal sonography for trauma [FAST]



Holcomb JB et al. Evidence based and clinically relevant outcomes for hemorrhage control trauma trials. Ann. Surg 2021, 273:395–401.


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### Objectives in Question Form

Q3: How did we manage TIC before 2006?  
Q4: What happened in 2006 to change all this?



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### 24-YO ♂, GSW in ED, 2006

A 24-YO male arrived in the ED with a shotgun wound causing massive abdominal trauma. He had received three units of Dextran<sup>®</sup> balanced 5% glucose-electrolyte crystalloid 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 pheresis platelet concentrate. After 8 RBCs, she ordered 1 more plasma and 1 more platelet concentrate unit, but the patient was still bleeding.

Labs:  
PT: 20.8 s [MRI 12.9]; PTT: 82.5 s [MRI 30.1]  
FG: 130 mg/dL [RI 225-498]; PLTs: 70,000/uL [RI 150-450,000]

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### Injury Severity Score [ISS]

Region	Examples	1-6	Top 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)	
External		1 (Minor)	1
Sum		19	ISS: 50

Maximum is 75. If injury is assigned a score of 6 [un survivable], the ISS is automatically 75. ISS correlates linearly with mortality, morbidity and hospital stay. See also automated revised ISS, [TRISS](#), which incorporates respiration and BP. 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. Gennarelli TA, Wodzin E. "AIS 2005: A contemporary injury scale". Injury 2006;37: 1083-91.


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### 24-YO ♂, GSW in ED, 2006

PT BP 70/40, temp 32°C, pH 7.30. In surgery, major vessels were tied, but the field was obscured by microvascular bleeds. The patient survived surgery but expired in the recovery room.



Distended viscera due to crystalloids/colloids

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

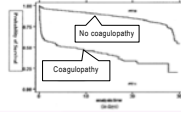
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### PT and PTT Predict Mortality [2003]

- Review of 7638 level I trauma admissions
- Initial PT >14s: 28% of admissions
  - 6.3% of patients with PT <14s died
  - 19.3% of patients with PT >14s died
  - Mortality incidence increase 35%; OR, 3.6; p <0.000
  - Controlled for age, ISS, BP, HCT, pH, and head injun
- Initial PTT >34s: 8% of admissions
  - Independent mortality increase 32%; OR 7.8; p <0.001




MacLeod JB, Lynn M, McKerney MG, et al. Early coagulopathy predicts mortality in trauma. J Trauma 2003;55:39-44.

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### 2006 TIC Management



<p>No coagulopathy suspected...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ligate and treat with crystalloids and RBCs</li> <li>In Viet Nam [1970], 5-10 units of crystalloids = "Da Nang lung"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acute respiratory distress syndrome [ARDS]</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discouraged plasma and PLT concentrate, few resources                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of hepatitis [HIV not identified before 1983]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Coagulopathy suspected...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PT &gt;1.5X "normal" or PTT &gt;2X "normal"                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plasma to replenish multiple factors</li> </ul> </li> <li>Coagulation factor concentrates: VIII, IX</li> <li>Replenish FG with CRYO</li> <li>Tx RBCs if HGB &lt;6 g/dL</li> <li>Tx PLTs if &lt;50,000/uL</li> <li>Recombinant activated factor VII [rFVIIa]</li> <li>Activated PCC [FEIBA]</li> <li>PCC [unactivated]</li> </ul>
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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: 198-208.

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### Q5: What happened to change all this?

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### 2004 Baghdad Case

- An IED-injured US soldier received 18 RBC units and died of dilutional coagulopathy before plasma could be thawed
- Surgeons and BB director agreed to always keep 4 units of thawed AB plasma available
- Initiated 1:1 plasma/RBC Rx; improved resuscitation, reduced hemorrhage
- Added PLT concentrate 2006
- Reduced crystalloids (Dextran, 5% glucose), reduced lung and tissue edema
- 2006: Joint Theatre Trauma System Guidelines
- 2012: Joint Trauma System Clinical Practice Guidelines

Holcomb JB, Patil S. Optimal trauma resuscitation with plasma as the primary resuscitative fluid: the surgeon's perspective. Am Soc Hematol Educ Program. 2013; 2013:656-9.  
 Holcomb JB, Jenkins D, Rhee P, et al. Damage control resuscitation: directly addressing the early coagulopathy of trauma. J Trauma 2007;62: 307-10.  
 Duchesne JC, Holcomb JB. Damage control resuscitation: addressing trauma-induced coagulopathy. Br J Hosp Med (Lond) 2009; 70: 22-5.

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### Q5: What Causes TIC?

Hemorrhage: 3-6 h		Thrombosis 24 h	
Hyperfibrinolysis	PLT Dysfunction	Hypofibrinolysis	PLT Activation
Hypofibrinogenemia	Decreased Thrombin	Hyperfibrinogenemia	Increased Thrombin

From: Lining up for low titer O whole blood in trauma care: CAP Today, June, 2023

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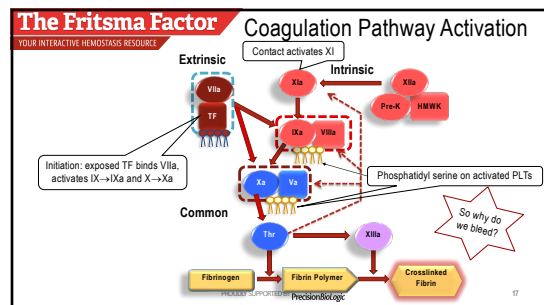
### TIC Initial Management

<b>Record hypothermia, hypotension, acidosis</b> (base deficit), hemorrhage	<b>Lab:</b> PT, PTT, CBC w/ PLTs, FG, D-D, ABG, Lytes, Viscoclastometry [VET]
<b>Surgery:</b> use warmed room, warmed plasma, PLTs and RBCs, close large vessels	<b>Coagulopathy Rx:</b> RBC, PLT, plasma 1:1:1; FG, F.VIII, FIX, FEIBA, PCC, rFVIIa, tranexamic acid [TXA]
<b>Hypothermia:</b> remove wet clothing, cover with blanket, peritoneal lavage, extracorporeal arteriovenous warming	<b>Acidosis:</b> shock resuscitation, normal saline, correct base deficit, maintain moderate target BP: systolic >70

Modified from: Teas BH, Holcomb JB, Schreiber MA. Coagulopathy: its pathophysiology and treatment in the injured patient. World J Surg 2007; 31: 1025-64.  
 Lambert CR, Wines ED, Spinella PC, et al. Association of shock, coagulopathy, and initial vital signs with massive transfusion in combat casualties. J Trauma 2010;69:575-80.

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### Lost Procoagulants: Exsanguination

- Half of FG and PLT pools are lost in massive hematoma or hemorrhage
  - A 70 kg male has 10 g FG, 15 mL PLTs
- Factor VII is consumed by exposed and secreted tissue factor
  - Results in ULWVF triggering platelet activation
- Factor V and VIII are depleted by activated protein C
  - Especially thromboplastin-rich brain microvesicles and phospholipids

Zhang J, Zhang F & Dong JF. Coagulopathy induced by traumatic brain injury: systemic manifestation of a localized injury. Blood 2018; 131: 2001-6

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### Diluted Procoagulants

- Hypotension leaves plasma colloid osmotic pressure unopposed.
  - Protein-poor fluid seeps into vasculature, diluting procoagulants and PLTs
- Crystalloids and colloid Rx
- Whole blood
  - Donor whole blood is diluted with 67 mL A/C per 450 mL total volume
  - Whole blood theoretical best HCT is 35-40%, procoagulants 60 U/dL, PLTs 90,000/uL
- Packed red cells
  - Procoagulants absent, PLTs 90,000/uL

Bolliger D, Gorlinger K, Tanaka KA. Pathophysiology and treatment of coagulopathy in massive hemorrhage and hemodilution. Anesthesiology 2010;113:1205-19.

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### Hypothermia, Acidosis, Fibrinolysis

- Enzyme activity slows at <37°C
- PLT activation slows at 32-34°C
- Platelets cease to bind VWF at 30°C
- Vitamin K-dependent factors II, VII, IX, and X fail to bind membrane phospholipids in acidosis
- Thrombomodulin exposure activates protein C
- α-antiplasmin loss prolongs free plasmin life, hyperfibrinolysis
- Decreased PLT PAI-1 prolongs tissue plasminogen activator (TPA) life
- Thrombin consumption lowers TAFI activation
  - Thrombin-activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor
- Factor XIII dilution causes inadequate fibrin crosslinking
  - Fibrin strands are thin, easily digested

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### VWF Release, Reduced ADAMTS13

Endothelial cell & megakaryocyte production  
2050 aa monomers  
α-granule and Weibel-Palade body storage

20m Dalton VWF multimers

5-20 mD multimers  
Plasma

↑ 20 mD multimers activate PLTs, cause PLT exhaustion

[a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13]

VWF-cleaving protease ADAMTS-13  
↓ ADAMTS13

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### The Protein C Control Pathway

Endothelial Cell  
Thrombin TM  
EPCR-1  
PC  
PS  
C4b-BP  
40% Free PS  
60% Bound PS

Thrombomodulin overexpressed in hypoperfusion

APC  
C4b-BP  
EPCR-1  
PC  
PS  
TM  
Va, VIIIa  
Va, VIIIa

Activated protein C  
Complement C4b binding protein  
Endothelial cell protein C receptor  
Protein C  
Protein S  
Thrombomodulin  
Activated V and VIII  
Inactivated V and VIII

Brohi K, Cohen MJ, Genter MT, et al. Acute traumatic coagulopathy: initiated by hypoperfusion; modulated through the protein C pathway? Ann Surg 2007; 245:812-8.

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### Hyperfibrinolysis

Fibrinogen  
Fibrin Monomer  
Crosslinked Fibrin  
Bound plasmin  
Free plasmin  
α-2-antiplasmin  
plasminogen  
TPA  
PAI-1  
TAFI  
FDPa, D-dimer  
D-2

↓ Xlla  
↓ TAFI  
↓ PAI-1

Valenza JM. Normal Hemostasis. In: Koobee EM, Olin CH, Waagsoe AM, Rodak's Hematology, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2019

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### TIC Mechanisms

Hypoperfusion [shock]  
Hypothermia [shock]  
pH drop from 7.4 to 7.2 [shock]  
Hyperfibrinolysis  
Coagulopathy  
Activated protein C  
Hemodilution & hypothermia by fluid resuscitation  
Cold RBCs  
Hypocalcaemia caused by ACs in blood products  
Surgical damage  
PLT activation  
FXI activation  
TF & FVII activation  
Inflammation: EC cytokine release  
ADAMTS13 consumed  
Inflammation: U/LVWF release

Duchesne JC, Holcomb JB. Damage control resuscitation: addressing trauma-induced coagulopathy. Br J Hosp Med 2009; 70: 22-5.

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## How to Measure?

- Q6: Besides PT, PTT, fibrinogen, and D-dimer, how can we measure TIC? Especially, how do we tell when the patient is flipping from hemorrhage to thrombosis?

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## Thromboelastograph [TEG 5000]

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## TEG 5000 Parameters

Parameter	Symbol	Definition	RI
Clot rate	R	Period from 0-2 mm amplitude	4-8 m
Clot kinetics	K	Period from 2-22 mm amplitude	0-4 m
Clot strengthening angle	$\alpha$	slope of tangent at 2-22 mm amplitude	47-74°
Maximum clot strength	MA	Maximum amplitude	54-72 mm
Clot lysis	LY30	MA at 30 minutes	0-8%

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## TEG 5000 Results For Oenophiles

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## TEG 6s

Cartridges w/ four rgt's. Citrated WB transferred to selected cartridge, mixed with respective rgt's and exposed to vibration. Detector monitors vertical motion of the meniscus, converts to a clot-strength proportional resonance frequency tracing.

- ACT: activated clotting time
- CFI: activated by the functional FIB test [FLEV]
- CKH: activated with kaolin and heparinase
- CK: activated with kaolin
- CM: multi-functional cartridge
- CR: activated with rapid TEG
- FLEV: FIB level
- K: coagulation time
- MA: maximum amplitude
- R: reaction time

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### Hemosonics Quantra

Stat  
•Trauma  
•Liver transplant

Plus  
•Cardiac surgery  
•Major orthopedic surgery  
Thanks to Todd Allen, Clinical Development Director, Hemosonics, Inc.

Requires ~3 mL citrated WB

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#### Hemosonics Quantra

**Data Acquisition**

Ultrasound pulses are sent into the blood sample to induce resonance, causing the sample to oscillate.

**Displacement Estimation**

The blood coagulates over time and its stiffness increases, the frequency of oscillation will also increase.

**Clot Time and Clot Stiffness Measurement**

Clot times and clot stiffness values are measured from the existing shear modulus.

**Sonoreometry [SEER]**

- CTH: heparinase clot time
- CT: clot time
- CTR: clot time ratio
- CS: Clot stiffness
- PCS: platelets contribution
- FCS: fibrinogen contribution

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#### Quantra Qplus for Cardiac and Ortho Normal Result Numeric Screen

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### Hemosonics Quantra Qplus Cartridge

Parameter [Units]	Measurement
CT [s]	Intrinsic system clot time
CTH [s]	Intrinsic system clot time with heparinase neutralizer
CS [hPa]	Clot stiffness of WB, extrinsic activation [maximum amplitude]
FCS [hPa]	FBG contribution to clot stiffness
PCS [hPa, calculated]	PLT contribution to clot stiffness
CTR [ratio, calculated]	Clotting time ratio [CT/CTH]: Indicates intrinsic pathway function or UFH influence
Citratd WB; CTH, CS, FCS, and PCS are measurable while on bypass	

The QPlus Cartridge evaluates coagulation function in adults undergoing cardiovascular or major orthopedic surgeries before, during, and after the procedure.

33

### Hemosonics Quantra Qstat Cartridge

Parameter [Units]	Measurement
CT [s]	Intrinsic system clot time
CTH [s]	Intrinsic system clot time with heparinase neutralizer
CS [hPa]	Clot stiffness of WB, extrinsic activation [maximum amplitude]
FCS [hPa]	Fibrinogen contribution to clot stiffness
PCS [hPa, calculated]	PLT contribution to clot stiffness
CSL %	Clot Stiffness to Lysis: difference of the CS in the absence of TXA and the corresponding CS in the presence of TXA

Samples with CSL <90% indicate reduced CS due to hyperfibrinolysis.

The QStat cartridge evaluates coagulation and fibrinolytic function in adult trauma and liver transplant.

But fibrinolysis is a cell-localized function!

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#### How to Treat?

- Q6: How do you manage TIC?
- A: MTP?

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#### 2007: RBC/Plasma 1:1

- USA hospital in Baghdad Green Zone
  - Tx >2000 wounded, massively Tx >600 wounded
  - Retrospective w/o controls but extensive, careful documentation
- Receiving ≤1 plasma per 4 RBCs: 65% mortality
  - Confounding data: soldiers who received >10 RBC units but died before plasma could thaw are counted in this arm
- Receiving 2 plasma for every 3 RBCs: 19% mortality
  - Confounded: survivors receive more plasma vs. those who die
  - Requires ~15 h to resolve coagulopathy
  - Surgeons report less bleeding and edema
- Anticipated adverse effects
  - Plasma supply—yes, TACO—yes
  - No TRALI, anaphylaxis, ARDS, MOF, or 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: 805-13.  
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### Massive Tx Protocol [MTP] in Young, Healthy Combat Casualties

- Systolic <110 mm Hg
- Pulse >110 BPM
- Acidosis: pH <7.25 or base deficit >6 mM
- HGB <11 g/dL
- PT >1.5 x mean of reference interval (MRI)

*Start MTP if any two are present*



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, Kiraly L, et al. Early predictors of massive transfusion in combat casualties. J Am Coll Surg 2007;205:541-5

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### MTP Defined by RBC Volumes

- Major hemorrhage defined by blood usage
- Retrospective:  $\geq 10$  RBC units in 24h
  - Or  $\geq 50$  total component units in 24h
  - 1 blood volume replaced in 70 kg patient
- Ongoing: 3 units RBCs/h; 5 units/3h
- Why give RBCs first?
  - Patient loses "red stuff," needs "red stuff."
  - But HCT unchanged, though volume lost

*Start MTP if blood loss >150 mL/min*



Burtelow M, Riley E, Druzin M, et al. How we treat: Management of life-threatening primary postpartum hemorrhage with a standardized massive transfusion protocol. Transfusion 2007; 47:1564-72

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### MTP in ER: Civilian Casualties

- Penetrating Vs. blunt mechanism
- focused abdominal sonography for trauma [FAST]
  - Peritoneal fluid, organ rupture, internal bleeding
- Arrival systolic BP <90 mmHg, pulse >120

*Start MTP if any two are present*



**ER use of uncrossmatched RBCs predicts 3X the incidence of MTP**

Nunez TC, Dutton WD, May AK, et al. Emergency department blood transfusion predicts early massive transfusion and early blood component requirement. Transfusion 2010;50: 1914-20.


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### How to Treat?

- Q7: RBCs?



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### RBC Tx Risks in Trauma

- ABO incompatibility 1:80,000, allergic reaction, citrate toxicity
- Tx predicts thrombosis and MOF when victim survives >24 h
- Tx-associated circulatory overload [TACO]
- Tx correlates with 4X rise in ICU admission
- Mortality rises with each RBC unit
- No patient >75 who gets >12 RBC units survives
- Tx infection odds ratio 5.26 versus no Tx, febrile reaction
- Composite risk of TRALI\* and ARDS\* 1:5000
  - \*Transfusion-related acute lung injury
  - \*Acute respiratory distress syndrome

Robinson WP, Ahn J, Siller A, et al. Blood transfusion is an independent predictor of increased mortality in non-operatively managed blunt hepatic and splenic injuries. J Trauma 2005;58:437-44.

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### Intraoperative RBC Tx Risks

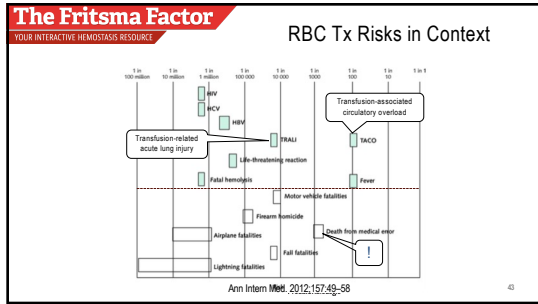
Independent Outcome	RBCs	No RBCs
Sepsis	16.4%	9.8%
Pulmonary complication	12.6%	6.0%
Wound complications	9.2%	4.7%
Mortality	6.4%	4.4%
Thromboembolic disease	4.0%	1.9%
Renal complications	2.7%	1.9% NS
Cardiac complications	2.1%	1.4% NS

- 30-day outcomes, all but the last two significant at p <0.05
- Most RBCs used are near the end of their life span.

Giance LG, Dick AW, Mukamel DB, et al. Association between intraoperative blood transfusions and mortality and morbidity in patients undergoing noncardiac surgery. Anesthesiology 2011;114:283-92.

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**How to Treat?**

- Q8: Plasma?

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**What Does "Plasma" Mean?**

- Fresh frozen plasma (FFP)
  - Plasma processed and placed at  $\leq -18^{\circ}\text{C}$  within 8 h of collection
  - Plasma from males or nulligravida females to avoid TRALI
  - Largely discontinued 2000-2010, though name lives on
- 24-h plasma (PF24)
  - WB ambient  $\leq 8$  h;  $-6^{\circ}\text{C}$   $\leq 16$  h; processed  $\leq -18^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 24 h
  - Most common prep, mis-named FFP by most health care pros
- 24-h plasma (PF24RT24)
  - WB held ambient, processed and placed at  $\leq -18^{\circ}\text{C}$  within 24 h
  - Approved 4/1/2014 for replacement of non-labile coagulation factors
- All preparations stored frozen up to 12 months
- Thawed AB and A plasma: stored at  $-6^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; 5 d if closed

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**Plasma Reduces EC Permeability**

- Barrier dysfunction, interstitial edema, tissue hypoxia, inflammatory cells
- Infiltration, detached pericytes, extracellular matrix breakdown, apoptosis, exposed subendothelium
- Stabilizes ECs through junction protein regulation

Normal Shock Crystalloids Plasma

Kozar R, Peng Z, Zhang R. Plasma restoration of endothelial glycocalyx in a rodent model of hemorrhagic shock. Anes & Analgesic 2011

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**Mean Factor V, VIII and Protein S Levels**

Preparation	Factor V	Factor VIII	Protein S
FFP at thaw	85%	81%	97%
FFP 5d post-thaw	67%	43%	92%
PF24 at thaw	86%	66%	90%
PF24 5d post-thaw	59%	48%	78%
PF24RT24 at thaw	90%	86%	82%
PF24RT24 5d post-thaw	89%	86%	73%

Use supplemental FFP or FVIII deficiency

O'Neill EM, Rowley J, Hansson-Wicher M, et al. Effect of 24-hour whole-blood storage on plasma clotting factors. Transfusion 1999;39:488-91.

Cardigan R, Lawrie AS, Mackie IJ, Williamson LM. The quality of fresh frozen plasma produced from whole blood stored at 4 C overnight. Transfusion 2005;45:1342-48.

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**Group AB Plasma When ABO is Unknown**

- Restricted group AB plasma from males & nulligravida females
  - Odds of unrestricted AB plasma TRALI 14.5 X higher than restricted A, B, or O
  - TRALI restrictions applied 4/1/2014
  - AB = 2.6% of active donors before TRALI restriction, cut by 2/3
- AB plasma demand raised
  - New massive Tx protocols raise demand
  - Maintaining thawed plasma supply in ER or on EMI vans and copters
  - Thawed AB diverted to non-ABs on 5<sup>th</sup> day to avoid waste
- 3 sites provided 141 group A plasma to AB and B patients
  - 97 units of untitered anti-B; No transfusion reactions

Novak DJ, Bai Y, Cooke RK, Marques MB, et al. Making thawed universal donor plasma available rapidly for massively bleeding trauma patients: experience from the Pragmatic, Randomized Optimal Platelets and Plasma Ratios (PROPPR) trial. Transfusion 2015; 55:1331-9.

Zelinski MD, Johnson PM, Jenkins D, et al. Emergency use of prethawed group A plasma in trauma patients. J Trauma Acute Care Surg 2013; 74: 69-75.


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### Group A Plasma When ABO is Unknown




- Most recipients are A and O, compatible w/ A plasma
- Anti-B titers low in TRALI-restricted population
- B substance in secretors neutralizes anti-B
- Patients may be receiving massive O RBCs anyway
- U Mass, 2008–13 (similar data from Mayo)
  - Emergency release of 358 A plasmas
  - 84% of recipients turned out to be A or O, compatible
  - 23 recipients were B or AB, 11 of these received O RBCs
  - 12 exposed: no acute hemolytic transfusion reactions
    - Three weak positive post-transfusion DATs
  - Reduced AB plasma usage 97%

Chhibber V, Green M, Vauthrin M, et al. Is group A plasma suitable as the first option for emergency release transfusion? Transfusion 2014; 54: 1751–5. PRECISELY SUPPORTED BY PrecisionBioLogic

49

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### How to Treat?



- Q9: PLTs?

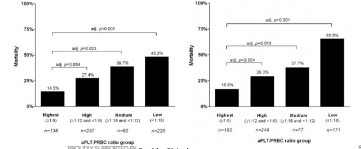
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### Platelet Concentrate

- Clinicians discouraged from giving platelets
  - Why? "Platelets are precious."
- Use anyway, they stabilize the coagulopathy
  - PLTs have all the "good stuff" that is in plasma



Isidori K, Luthi-Schikler T, Pines P, et al. The impact of platelet transfusions in massively transfused trauma patients. JACS 2010. PRECISELY SUPPORTED BY PrecisionBioLogic

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### How to Treat?

- Q10: LTOWB?



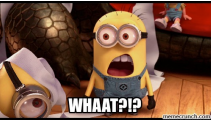
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### New [Old] Approaches

Cold-storage Low Titer Group O Whole Blood [LTOWB]  
Cold Storage Platelet Concentrate



McCoy CC, Brenner M, Duchesne J, et al. Back to the future: whole blood resuscitation of the severely injured trauma patient. Shock. 2021;56:9-15. PRECISELY SUPPORTED BY PrecisionBioLogic

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### Cold Storage Low Titer Group O Whole Blood

- WB provides plasma:RBC:PLTs in a 1:1:1 ratio
- WB improves survival compared to stored components
- Better O<sub>2</sub> saturation, less hypoxia, superior platelet function
- No RBC storage lesion vs "reconstituted" whole blood

*No Brainer?*

Parameter	1:1:1	"Real" WB
Total volume	660 mL	570 mL
Hematocrit	29%	35–38%
Platelet count	90,000/μL	150–350,000/μL
Factor activity	65%	85%
Anticoagulant & preservative		Decreased

• Joint Theater Trauma System Clinical Practice Guideline: Fresh whole blood transfusion, 2012  
• Shock 41 Supplement 1, p 62–9, 2014. PRECISELY SUPPORTED BY PrecisionBioLogic

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### Cold Storage LTOWB

- 1:1:1 ratio provides an estimated 38% loss of plasma coagulation factor activity and 56% loss of platelets compared to WB.
- Less decision-making, only one unit to hang
- Exposure to fewer blood donors
- When controlling for severity of injury, WB decreased the number of post-emergency room transfusions by 50% when compared to component therapy.
- But risk of exposure to "minor side" immune response to anti-A or anti-B
  - Study showed no laboratory evidence of reaction

*Thanks to Sarah Bates, UCF Transfusion Svc.*

Seheult JN, Bahr M, Anto V, et al. Safety profile of uncrossmatched, cold-stored, low-titer, group O+ whole blood in civilian trauma patients. *Transfusion*. 2018;58:2280-8.

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**The Fritsma Factor** Blood Center LTOWB Management  
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- Titer <256 [wisdom of the elders]: donor titers are consistent over time
- Leukoreduction: reduces TRALI, CMV, febrile reaction
  - Mostly components, if WB, must be with PLT-sparing filters
  - No difference in PLT count after 15d storage with non-LR
- Accept only nulligravida females
- Restrict rare units for multi-ab patients, observe Rh status
- Maintain adequate pheresis components
- Set up standing orders with transfusion service, avoid returns

*CAP Today, June 2023*

Remy KE, et al. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2018;84 [6S suppl 1]:S104-14  
Pidcoke HE, McFaul SJ, Anand K, et al. Primary hemostatic capacity of whole blood: a comprehensive analysis of pathogen reduction and refrigeration effects over time. *Transfusion* 2013;53:1375-149S.

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### Cold-stored Pheresis Platelets

- Minimize bacteria contamination
- Provide crucial rapid, not prolonged hemostatic control
- Actin polymerization, disassembly of microtubules, increase in cytosolic Ca<sup>++</sup>, shape changes
- But: enhanced immediate adhesion, aggregation, clot strength
- Cleared in 2-3 days (RT 4-5 days)
- 18-24° C 5-day PLT concentrate not practical in transport
- Approved in 2015 by FDA for only 3-day storage, much wastage

Stubbs JB, Tran SA, Emery RL, et al. Cold platelets for trauma-associated bleeding: regulatory approval, accreditation approval, and practice implementation—just the "tip of the iceberg." *Transfusion* 2017; Cap AP, et al. *Mil Med*. 2018;183(suppl 2):44-51

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### Transition to Venous Thromboembolism

- The worse the hemorrhage at 4-6 h, greater risk of VTE at 24 h
- Traumatic brain injury causes greater VTE risk
- Use of TXA early may reduce VTE risk late
- Anticoagulants? Too early, more bleeding, too late, VTE
- Use VET parameters to guide Rx, UFH or LMWH: clot strength, hypofibrinolysis

Hecht JP et al. Association of timing of initiation of pharmacologic venous thromboembolism prophylaxis with outcomes in trauma patients. *J. Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2021;90, 54-63

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### How to Treat?



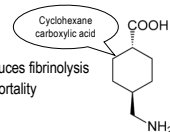
- Q11: TXA?

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### Tranexamic Acid [TXA, Cyclokapron] Rx



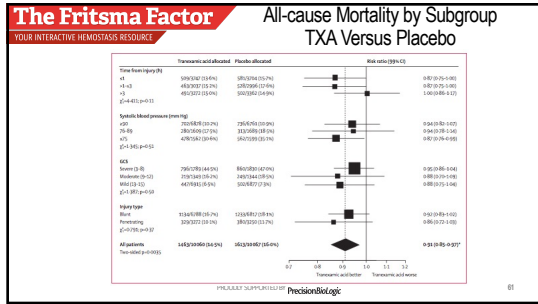
- Synthetic lysine blocks plasminogen binding sites, reduces fibrinolysis
- Reduces Tx requirements in surgery without raising mortality
- Around since 1968, cheap



CRASH-2 trial collaborators. 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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#### CRASH 2 on Public Media Use TXA, CRYO, and PCC

- Rapid, effective, predictable rise in factor activity
- Activated PCC, 4-factor PCC; low volume vs. plasma
- RiaSTAP® FG; low volume vs. CRYO, no TACO
- Avoid 58% of massive transfusions
  - "Massive transfusion avoidance protocol"
- Reduce RBC Tx by 8.4%
  - Smaller risk of incompatible Tx
- Reduce plasma demand by 90%
- Effective viral inactivation
- No risk of TRALI
- "Never" use rVlla?

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#### TXA Comments

- "MATTER" study reported better outcomes than CRASH-2
  - Number needed to treat: 7 versus 67
- HALT-IT trial of TXA in patients with GI hemorrhage indicated a significant increase in VTE in those receiving TXA given over 24 hours.
- 13% DVT/PE prevalence attributed to 24h use causing hypofibrinolysis
- But CRASH-2 and CRASH-3 trials randomized tens of thousands of patients after injury to TXA or placebo, and neither study demonstrated an increase in VTE.
- Laboratory monitoring: VET only
- Europe uses TXA in field and hospital, in US, EMS units carry TXA but not used in hospital
- Military medics carry TXA, not rVlla

Morrison JJ, Dubess JJ, Rasmussen TE, Midwinter MJ. Military application of tranexamic acid in trauma emergency resuscitation (MATTER) study. Arch Surg 2012;147:113-19.

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### The Fritsma Factor

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#### Mayo Transport Unit

- Cooler box with...
- 2 group O negative RBC units
- 2 group A thawed plasma units
- 1 cold-stored LTOWB Rh neg
- 1 group A cold-stored pheresis platelet unit

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### The Fritsma Factor

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#### Duke Unit Transport

- Cooler box #1
  - 2 group O negative RBC units
  - 2 group A thawed plasma units
- Cooler box #2
  - 2 group O negative RBC units
  - 2 group A thawed plasma units
  - 1 group A pheresis platelet unit
- Step 3: consult w/ provider, get labs
  - Components, TXA, rVlla, LTOWB as requested

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#### Q12: What's Left?

- Progress
- Quality of life
- Match Rx to conditions

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### Any Progress?

A reduction in bleeding-related deaths was observed in one US urban trauma center from 36% to 25% after implementing a bleeding control bundle-of-care but since the 1990s, when bleeding caused over one third of trauma fatalities, we have made little progress, as currently hemorrhage accounts for 20–34% of trauma-related mortality.

Oyeniyi BT et al. Trends in 1029 trauma deaths at a level 1 trauma center: impact of a bleeding control bundle of care. *Injury* 2017; 48, 5–12.  
Roberts DJ et al. One thousand consecutive in-hospital deaths following severe injury: has the etiology of traumatic inpatient death changed in Canada? *Can. J. Surg* 2018; 61 150–2.

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### Quality of Life [QOL]

- In Trauma Recovery Project post-injury functional limits in >75% at 12 and 18-months.
- Depression in 60% of patients at discharge and 31% at 6 months.
- Adolescents without TBI showed acute stress disorder in 40% upon discharge.
  - Large QOL deficits at 3, 6, 12 and 24 months and long-term PTSD rate 27%.
- In CONTROL report, over 70% report moderate or extreme difficulties in usual activities, pain or discomfort and mobility limitations.
  - Over half reported self-care problems and anxiety or depression.
- In Australia, Glasgow Outcome Score–Extended [GOSE] at 6 and 12 months in non-TBI adults with massive blood transfusion independently associated with unfavorable outcomes among survivors at 6 months after injury.

Holbrook TL, Anderson JP, Sieber WJ, et al. Outcome after major trauma: 12-month and 18-month follow-up results from the Trauma Recovery Project. *J. Trauma* 1999; 46, 765–773.  
Christensen MC, Banner C, Laferling R, et al. Quality of life after severe trauma: results from the global trauma trial with recombinant factor VII. *J. Trauma* 2011; 70 1524–31.

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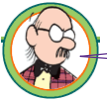
### What's Left?

- Clinical TIC definition
  - Multiple TIC phenotypes exist; define to optimize Rx.
- How to distinguish early hemorrhagic from later thrombotic status.
- Massive transfusion definitions do not capture the effect of TIC on TBI.
- Too many hypotheses, too many mechanisms
  - Mechanisms vary with type of injury: blunt, penetrating, GSW, TBI
- How to match the right Rx with the right mechanism

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Questions?

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