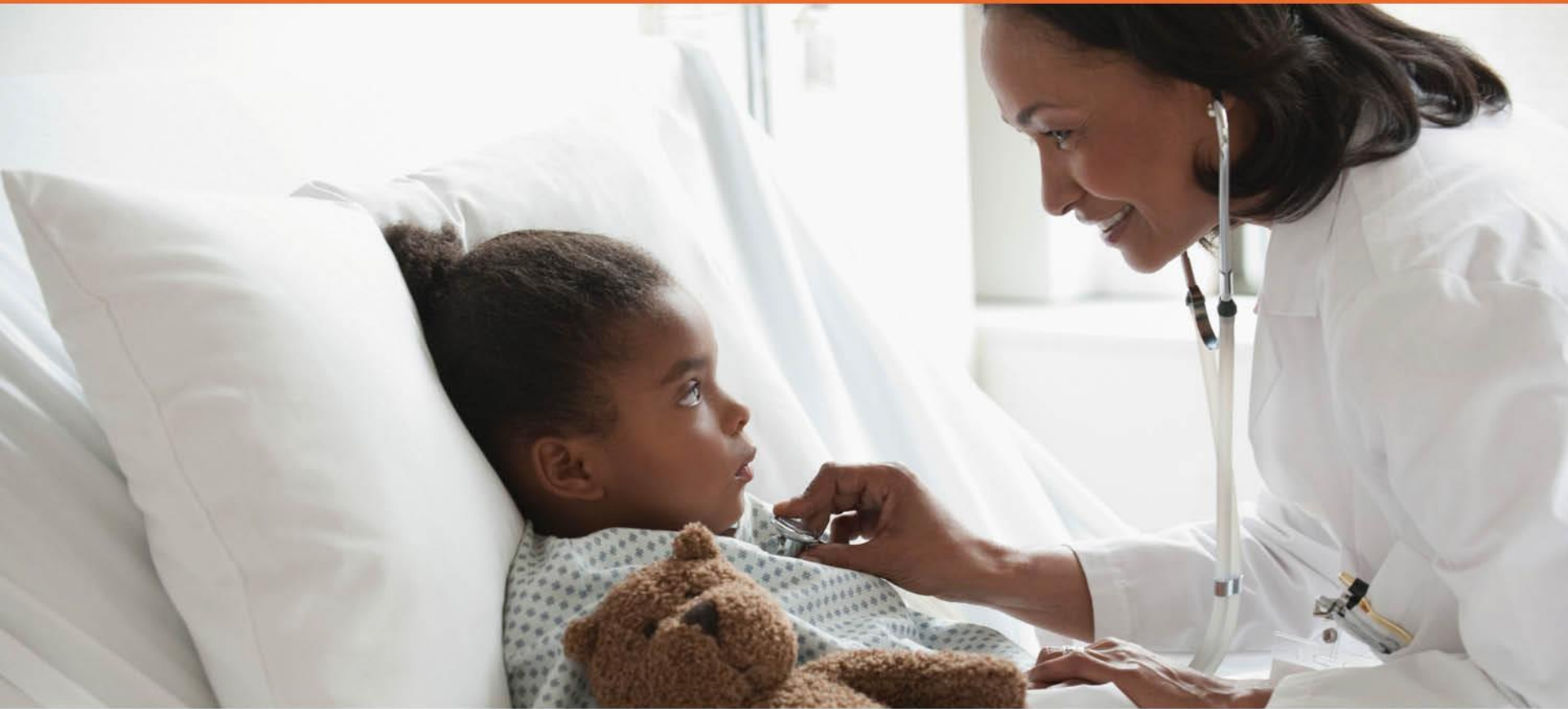


Welcome!

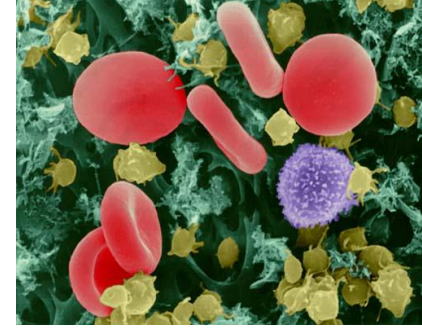
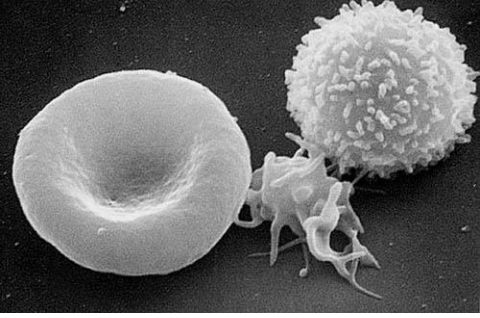
- To join the call dial (866) 740-1260, passcode 3754894#.
- All participants are placed on mute for the duration of the webinar.
- If you have questions, type them in the chat box at the bottom left hand side of your screen. They will be answered at the end of the presentation.
- This conference is being recorded for future use.
- The recording will be made available on the ASPHO website afterwards.

Evidence-based Decision Making for Transfusion Practices



Moderator: John Fargo, DO
Speaker: William Savage, MD PhD

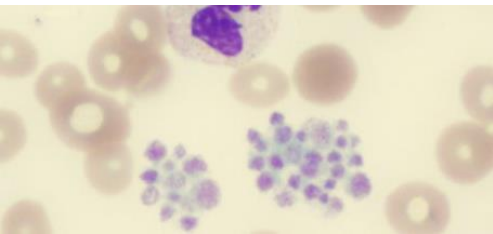




Evidence-based Decision Making for Transfusion

“What’s the News on When to Transfuse”

Will Savage, MD, PhD



Disclosures

- Shire Pharmaceuticals (1/17/17-)
 - Full time-employee
 - Equity ownership
- PosterCast, LLC
 - Manager
 - Equity ownership

Objective

- Discuss recent evidence for blood product support scenarios
 - Indications
 - Dosing
 - Product selection
- Broad review with focus on newer clinical trial data

Outline

- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold and dose
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
 - Age of stored blood
 - SCD
- Granulocyte Transfusion

Outline

- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
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Gaydos et al., 1962 (NEJM)

- Retrospective review of 92 patients with ALL and AML starting at Dx.
- “Patients were followed till death”
- “There was no threshold”
- Manual plt counts

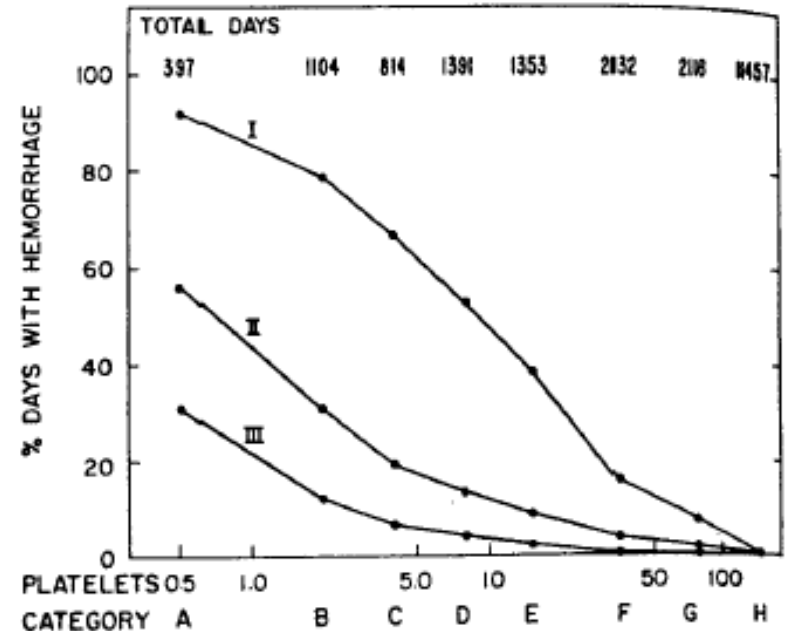


FIGURE 1. Relation between Hemorrhage and Platelet Count.

The percentage of days with hemorrhage for the 92 patients combined is shown for each of the 8 platelet-count categories. (Figures across the top are the total number of patient days in each of the categories.) Curve I shows data for all hemorrhagic manifestations. In Curve II skin hemorrhage and epistaxis are excluded. Curve III refers only to grossly visible hemorrhage.

Platelet Transfusions Prevent Bleeding?

- 18 center observational study of 789 pts
- 2/3 of hemorrhage occurred with plt >20K

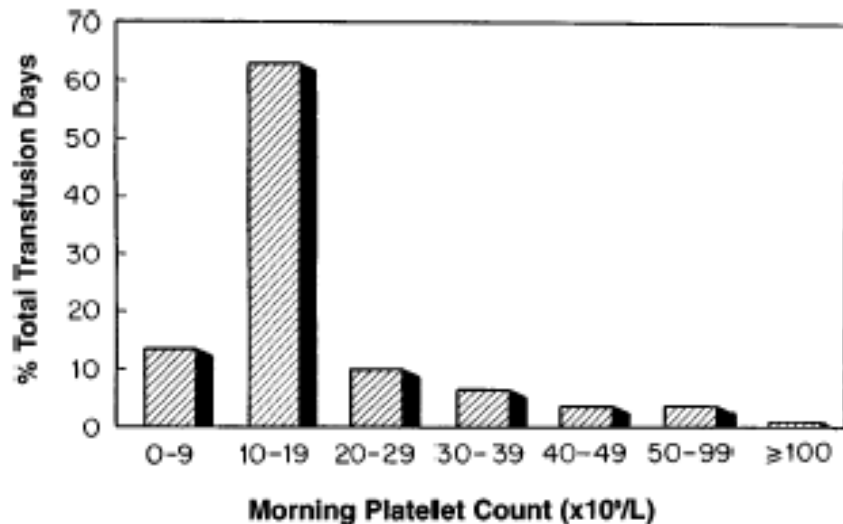


Fig 5. The distribution of platelet transfusion days by morning platelet count for all stem cell transplant patients (n = 789).

Platelet count on day of onset

Not available	9	6
<5,000/L	5	3
6,000-10,000/L	9	6
11,000-15,000/L	17	12
16,000-20,000/L	10	7
21,000-50,000/L	58	41
>50,000/L	35	25

Rebulla et al, 1997 (NEJM)

- RCT compared 10K to 20K triggers for plt Tx in AML induction (no M3 or 2° AML)
- Not specifically powered for non-inferiority (equivalence)

Rebulla, 1997

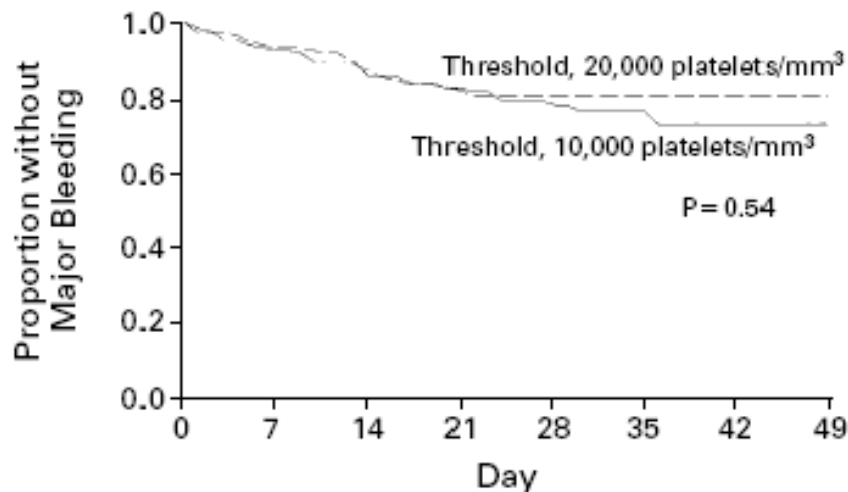


Figure 1. Proportion of Patients without Major Bleeding.
The relative risk of major bleeding was 1.1 in the group with a threshold of 10,000 platelets per cubic millimeter (95 percent confidence interval, 0.7 to 2.0) as compared with the group with a threshold of 20,000 platelets per cubic millimeter.

TYPE OF EPISODE	THRESHOLD, 10,000 PLATELETS/mm ³	THRESHOLD, 20,000 PLATELETS/mm ³
	no. of episodes (no. of patients)	
Gastrointestinal bleeding	12 (10)	5 (3)
Hematuria	5 (5)	6 (4)
Metrorrhagia	3 (3)	2 (2)
Epistaxis requiring transfusion	2 (2)	2 (2)
Retinal hemorrhage with visual impairment	3 (3)	2 (2)
Gingival hemorrhage requiring transfusion	0	2 (2)
Hemoptysis	1 (1)	1 (1)
Nonfatal cerebral hemorrhage	0	1 (1)
Fatal cerebral hemorrhage	1 (1)	0
System or organ affected not reported	12 (10)	12 (10)
Total*	39 (29)	33 (24)

*Some patients had more than one type of episode.



The Platelet Dosing (PLADO) Trial NEJM, 2010



+



Modeling of Platelet Dosing

- Lower doses: less product utilization (good)
- Lower doses result in more time $<10,000$ (bad?)
- Identifying the balance between platelet utilization and bleeding risk

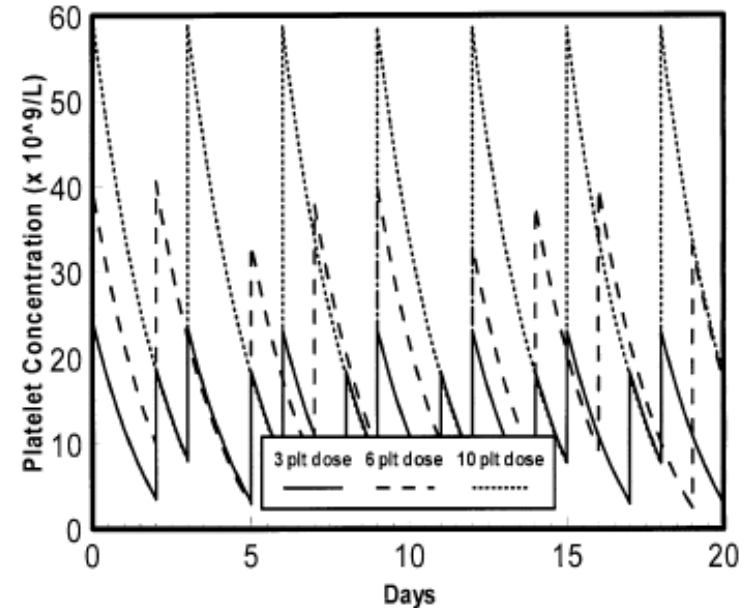


Fig 2. Total number of platelets transfused using 3 different prophylactic platelet transfusion doses: 3, 6, and 10 whole-blood-derived platelet units. (Reprinted with permission.⁶²)

Surprising Result: Everyone Bled!

Table 3. Primary and Key Secondary End Points, According to Treatment Group.

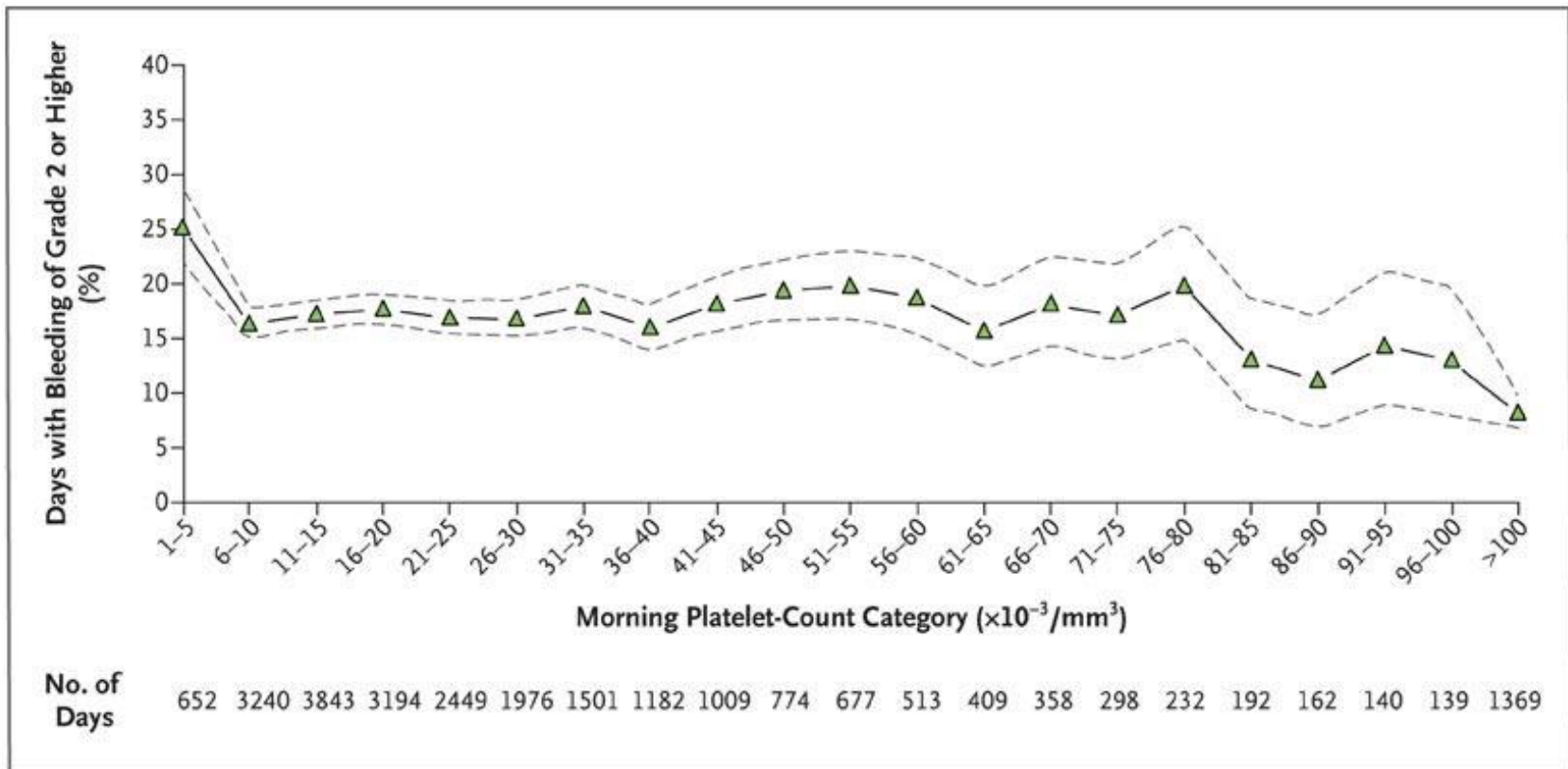
Characteristic	Platelet Dose*					
	Low Dose (N=417)	P Value, Low vs. Medium Dose	Medium Dose (N=423)	P Value, Medium vs. High Dose	High Dose (N=432)	P Value, High vs. Low Dose
Primary end point						
≥1 Episode of bleeding of grade 2 or higher — % of patients	71	0.60	69	0.71	70	0.94
Secondary end points						
Highest grade of bleeding during study — % of patients		0.30		0.65		0.54
No bleeding or grade 1	30		32		30	
Grade 2	58		59		60	
Grade 3	9		7		8	
Grade 4	3		2		2	
Death from hemorrhage — no. of patients	0		0	1.00	1	1.00
No. of days with bleeding of grade 2 or higher		0.90		0.91		0.99
Median	1		1		1	
Interquartile range	0–4		0–4		0–4	
Days from randomization to onset of bleeding of grade 2 or higher		0.85		0.66		0.55
Median	7		7		8	
Interquartile range	3–18		3–19		3–19	

Bleeding vs. Platelet Count

Not clear that transfusing platelets is prophylactic

Platelets Matter

You're not as sick

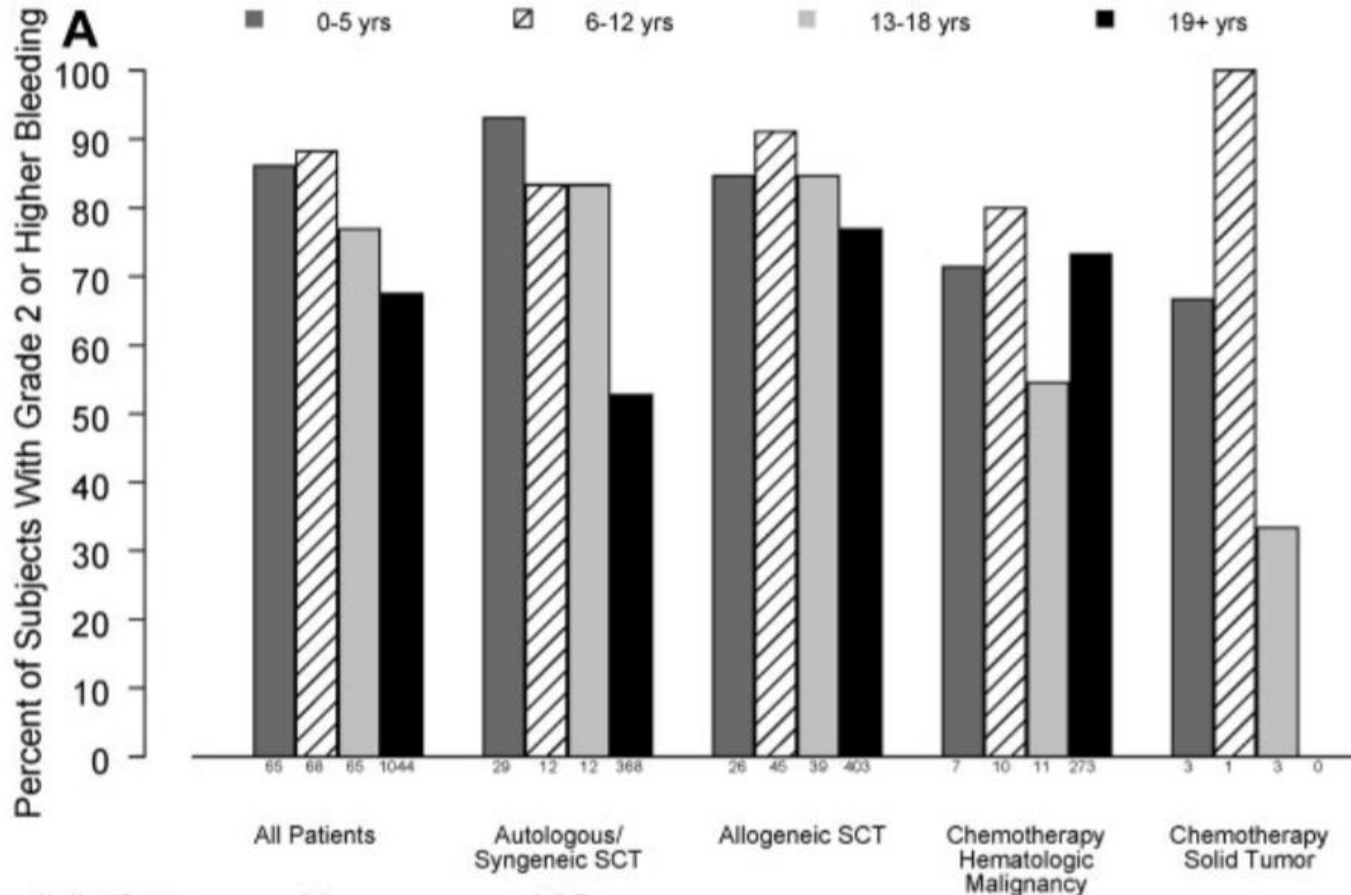


Peds PLADO Subgroup

CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

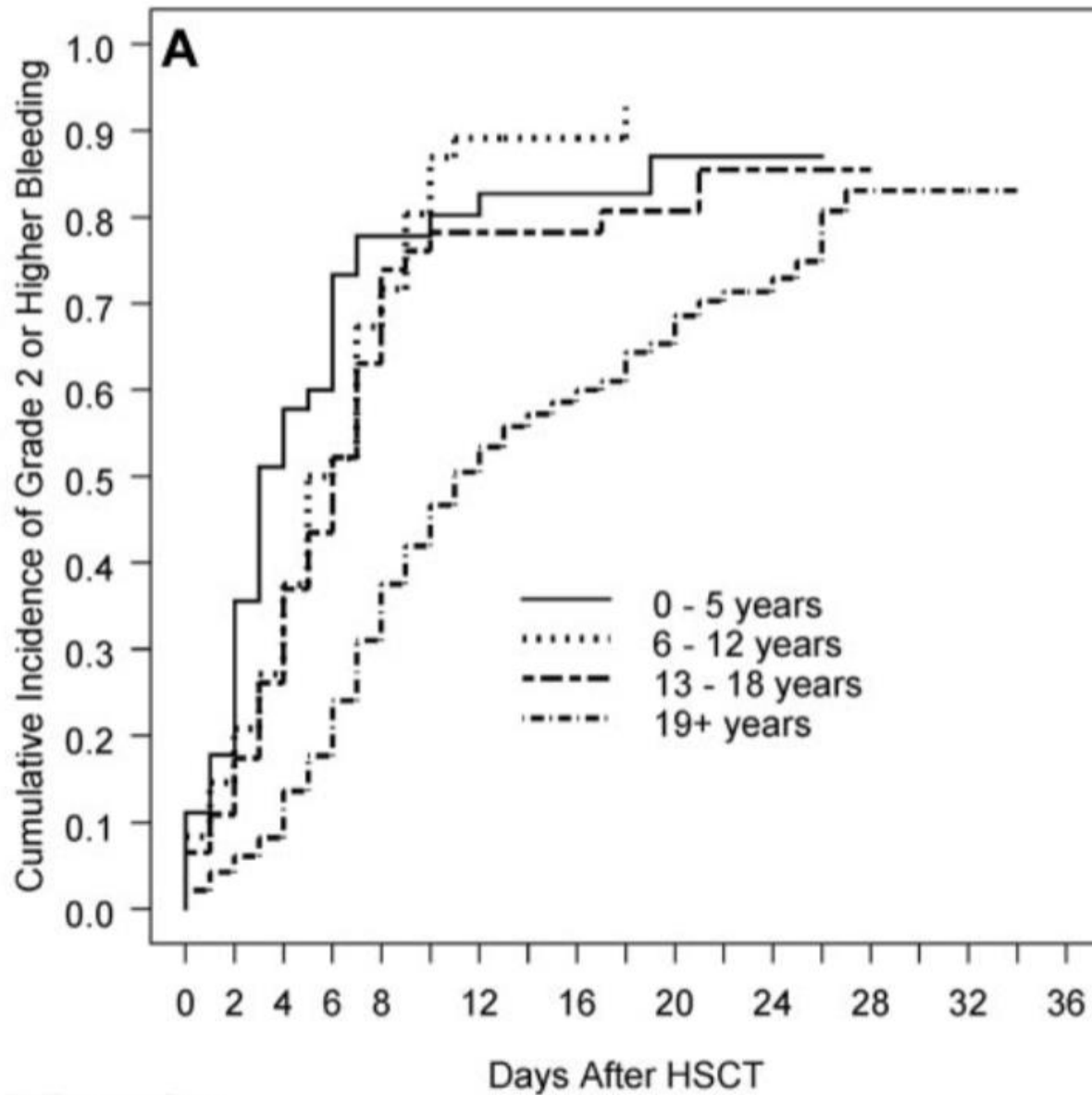
CME article

Bleeding risks are higher in children versus adults given prophylactic platelet transfusions for treatment-induced hypoproliferative thrombocytopenia



Days \geq Grade 2
 3 in peds
 1 in adults

Peds PLADO Subgroup



Is Platelet Tx Prophylaxis Needed? TOPPS Trial

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

MAY 9, 2013

VOL. 368 NO. 19

A No-Prophylaxis Platelet-Transfusion Strategy for Hematologic Cancers

- N=600
- Age ≥ 16 (mean=55)
- 70% auto HSCT

Prophylactic Platelet Tx Slightly Better than No Tx

Outcome	No Prophylaxis (N=301)	Prophylaxis (N=299)	No Prophylaxis vs. Prophylaxis	P Value
Primary end point				
WHO grade 2, 3, or 4 bleeding — no. (%)	151 (50)	128 (43)	8.4 (1.7 to 15.2) ^{†‡}	0.06 [§]
Secondary end points				
Highest grade of bleeding — no. (%)				
None or 1	149 (50)	170 (57)		
2	145 (48)	127 (43)		
3	4 (1)	1 (<1)		
4	2 (1)	0		
No. of days from randomization to first episode of grade 2, 3, or 4 bleeding	17.2±12.8	19.5±12.6	1.30 (1.04 to 1.64) [¶]	0.02
Receipt of platelet transfusions [¶]				
≥1 transfusion — no. (%)	176 (59)	266 (89)	0.14 (0.09–0.23)	<0.001
No. of transfusions/patient	1.7±2.6	3.0±3.2	0.62 (0.51–0.74) [§]	<0.001
No. of platelet units transfused/patient	1.9±3.3	3.2±3.6	0.67 (0.55–0.82) [§]	<0.001

TOPPS Trial: Auto vs. Allo Txp

Outcome	No Prophylaxis (N=301)	Prophylaxis (N=299)	No Prophylaxis vs. Prophylaxis	P Value
Bleeding events of grade 2, 3, or 4 according to treatment and type of cancer — no./total no. (%)				
Treatment				
Autologous stem-cell transplantation	99/210 (47)	95/210 (45)	2.3 (-5.7 to 10.3)†	
Chemotherapy	52/90 (58)	33/88 (38)	20.0 (7.9 to 32.2)†	0.04§§
Type of cancer				
Acute myeloid leukemia or acute lymphoid leukemia	37/60 (62)	21/56 (38)	24.2 (9.6 to 28.9)†	
Lymphoma or myeloma	107/226 (47)	100/227 (44)	3.3 (-4.4 to 11.0)†	
Chronic myeloid leukemia or other cancer	7/14 (50)	7/15 (47)	3.3 (-27.2 to 33.9)†	0.10§§

AABB Platelet Tx Guidelines 2015

- For prophylactic plt tx if $<10K$
 - Strong, moderate quality
- For prophylactic plt tx if $<20K$ for central venous catheter
 - Weak, low quality
- For prophylactic plt tx if $<50K$ for major surgery (non-neuro) or lumbar puncture
 - Weak, very low quality

Prophylactic Platelet Tx Points

- Platelets \neq hemostasis
- Platelets + humoral factors \neq hemostasis
- Platelets + humoral factors + vascular integrity = hemostasis
- Platelets, coag times/factors are easy to measure but aren't the whole story

Outline

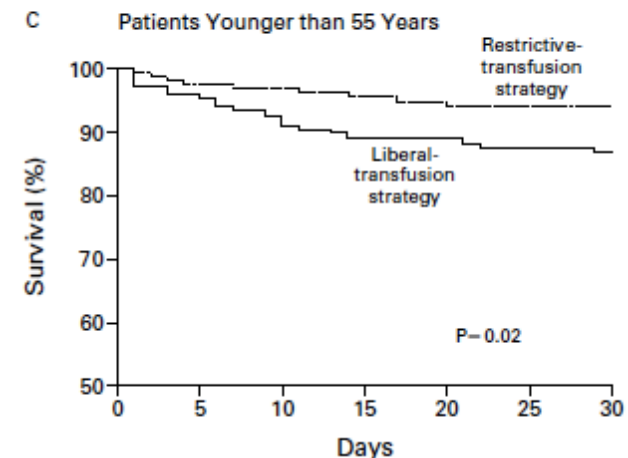
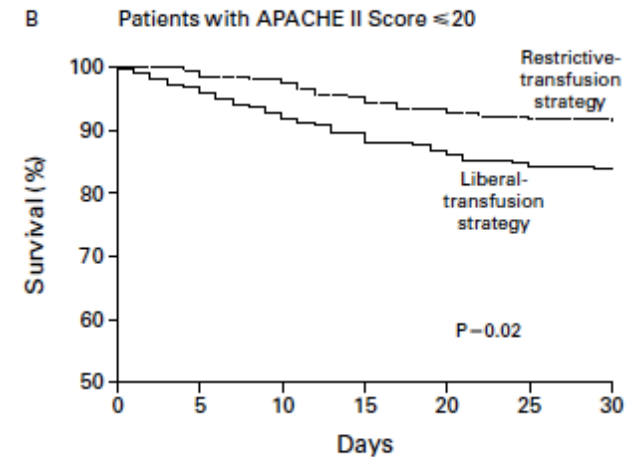
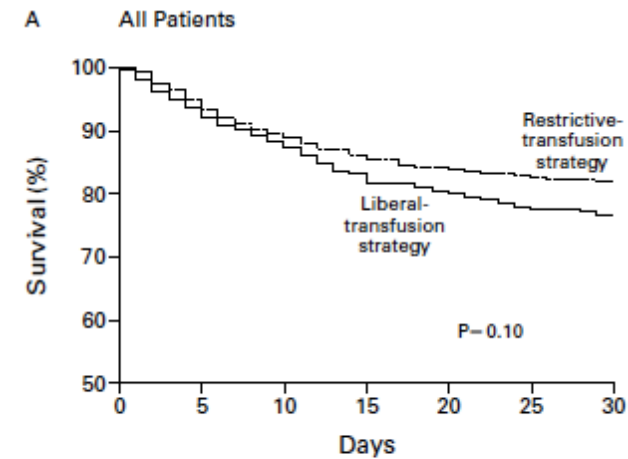
- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
 - Age of stored blood
 - SCD
- Granulocyte Transfusion

Considerations for Transfusing RBCs

- Symptoms
 - Dyspnea
 - Tachycardia
 - ? Fatigue
- Degree of anemia
- Patient/Family wishes
- Comorbidities
- Clinical status
- Outpatient status

When to Transfuse: RBCs

- TRICC study (adults)
 - n=838 randomized to restrictive (keep hgb>7) or liberal (keep hgb>10)
 - Outcome: 30d survival
 - 82% intubated, 37% pressors



TRIPICU

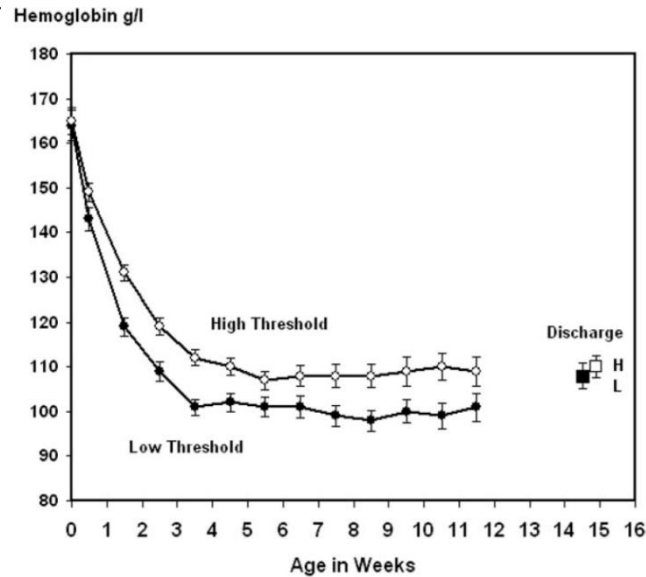
- N=637 randomized
 - Mean age: 3y
 - Restrictive (keep hgb>7)
 - Liberal (keep hgb>9.5)
- Outcome is new/progressive MODS at 28d
- 12% incidence, both groups
- Mortality: equivalent
- 44% fewer transfusions with restrictive

PINT

- ELBW (<1000g, n=458)

Table I. Hemoglobin threshold levels (g/L) triggering RBC transfusion

Age in days	Blood sampling	Low threshold		High threshold	
		Respiratory support	No respiratory support	Respiratory support	No respiratory support
1-7	Capillary	≤ 115	≤ 100	≤ 135	≤ 120
	Central	≤ 104	≤ 90	≤ 122	≤ 109
8-14	Capillary	≤ 100	≤ 85	≤ 120	≤ 100
	Central	≤ 90	≤ 77	≤ 109	≤ 90
≥ 15	Capillary	≤ 85	≤ 75	≤ 100	≤ 85
	Central	≤ 77	≤ 68	≤ 90	≤ 77



PINT

Table V. Primary outcome

Outcome cluster	Low threshold	High threshold	Treatment effect* (95% CI)	P value
Composite primary Death, severe ROP, BPD, or head ultrasound brain injury	165/223 (74.0%)	159/228 (69.7%)	OR: 1.30 (0.83, 2.02) RD: 2.7% (-3.7%, 9.2%)	.25
Individual components				
Death	48/223 (21.5%)	40/228 (17.5%)	OR: 1.38 (0.84, 2.27) RD: 2.6% (-3.5%, 8.8%)	.21
Survived with severe ROP	33/175 (18.9%)	33/188 (17.6%)	OR: 1.27 (0.71, 2.26) RD: 1.1% (-4.6%, 6.8%)	.42
Survived with BPD	101/175 (57.7%)	103/188 (54.8%)	OR: 1.18 (0.76, 1.85) RD: 3.9% (-4.6%, 12.4%)	.46
Survived with head ultrasound brain injury	22/175 (12.6%)	30/188 (16.0%)	OR: 0.86 (0.53, 1.39) RD: -3.3% (-9.9%, 3.4%)	.53

FOCUS

- Hip surgery (n=2016); Mean age: 81y
- 63% cardiovascular dz
- Primary outcome: death or inability to walk independently

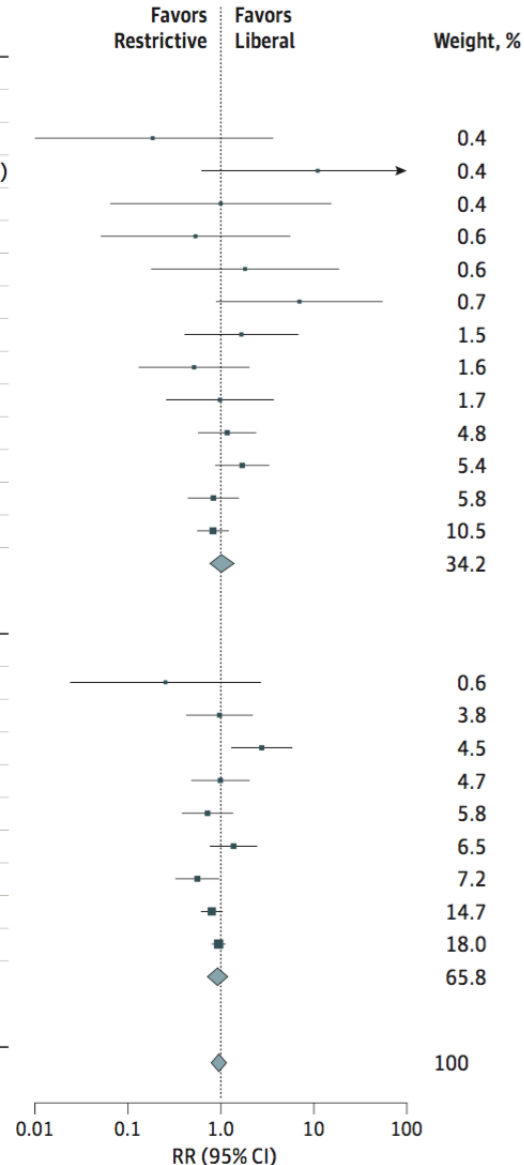
Table 3. Outcomes at 30 Days and 60 Days.*

Variable	30-Day Period		Odds Ratio (99% CI)
	Liberal Strategy (N = 1007)	Restrictive Strategy (N = 1009)	
	<i>no./total no. (%)</i>		
Death or inability to walk independently	459/995 (46.1)	481/1000 (48.1)	0.92 (0.73 to 1.16)
Inability to walk independently	407/995 (40.9)	438/1000 (43.8)	
Death	52/995 (5.2)	43/1000 (4.3)	1.23 (0.71 to 2.12)

Carson et al. *NEJM*. 2011.

AABB Systematic Review-Threshold

Source	Restrictive Transfusion Threshold		Liberal Transfusion Threshold		RR (95% CI)
	No. of Deaths	Total No.	No. of Deaths	Total No.	
Restrictive threshold, hemoglobin <8 to 9 g/dL					
Lotke et al, ⁷⁵ 1999	0	62	0	65	Not estimable
Blair et al, ⁵³ 1986	0	26	2	24	0.19 (0.01-3.67)
Foss et al, ⁶³ 2009	5	60	0	60	11.00 (0.62-194.63)
Carson et al, ⁵⁸ 1998	1	42	1	42	1.00 (0.06-15.47)
Webert et al, ⁸⁶ 2008	1	29	2	31	0.53 (0.05-5.58)
Cooper et al, ⁶¹ 2011	2	23	1	21	1.83 (0.18-18.70)
Carson et al, ⁵⁶ 2013	7	55	1	55	7.00 (0.89-55.01)
Parker, ⁷⁸ 2013	5	100	3	100	1.67 (0.41-6.79)
Bracey et al, ⁵⁴ 1999	3	215	6	222	0.52 (0.13-2.04)
Bush et al, ⁵⁵ 1997	4	50	4	49	0.98 (0.26-3.70)
Hajjar et al, ⁶⁸ 2010	15	249	13	253	1.17 (0.57-2.41)
Gregersen et al, ⁶⁴ 2015	21	144	12	140	1.70 (0.87-3.32)
Jairath et al, ⁷² 2015	14	257	25	382	0.83 (0.44-1.57)
Carson et al, ⁶⁰ 2011	43	1009	52	1007	0.83 (0.56-1.22)
Subtotal	121	2321	122	2451	1.05 (0.78-1.40)
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2=0.02$; $\chi^2_{12}=13.14$; $P=.36$; $I^2=9\%$					
Tests for overall effect: z score=0.31; $P=.76$					
Restrictive threshold, hemoglobin <7 g/dL					
DeZern et al, ⁸⁷ 2016	1	59	2	30	0.25 (0.02-2.69)
Hébert et al, ⁷⁰ 1995	8	33	9	36	0.97 (0.42-2.22)
de Almeida et al, ⁷⁹ 2015	23	101	8	97	2.76 (1.30-5.87)
Lacroix et al, ⁷⁴ 2007	14	320	14	317	0.99 (0.48-2.04)
Walsh et al, ⁸⁵ 2013	12	51	16	49	0.72 (0.38-1.36)
Murphy et al, ⁷⁶ 2015	26	1000	19	1003	1.37 (0.76-2.46)
Villanueva et al, ⁸⁴ 2013	19	416	34	417	0.56 (0.32-0.97)
Hébert et al, ⁶⁹ 1999	78	418	98	420	0.80 (0.61-1.04)
Holst et al, ⁷¹ 2014	168	502	175	496	0.95 (0.80-1.13)
Subtotal	349	2900	375	2865	0.94 (0.74-1.19)
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2=0.05$; $\chi^2_8=16.09$; $P=.04$; $I^2=50\%$					
Tests for overall effect: z score=0.53; $P=.59$					
Overall	470	5221	497	5316	0.97 (0.81-1.16)
Heterogeneity: $\tau^2=0.04$; $\chi^2_{21}=29.75$; $P=.10$; $I^2=29\%$					
Tests for overall effect: z score=0.29; $P=.77$					
Tests for subgroup differences: $\chi^2_1=0.34$; $P=.56$; $I^2=0\%$					



Carson et al.
JAMA. 2016

RBC Transfusion Threshold

- No clinical trial evidence to support higher threshold for transfusion
- Priority placed on avoiding transfusion, i.e. favor restrictive strategy

Outline

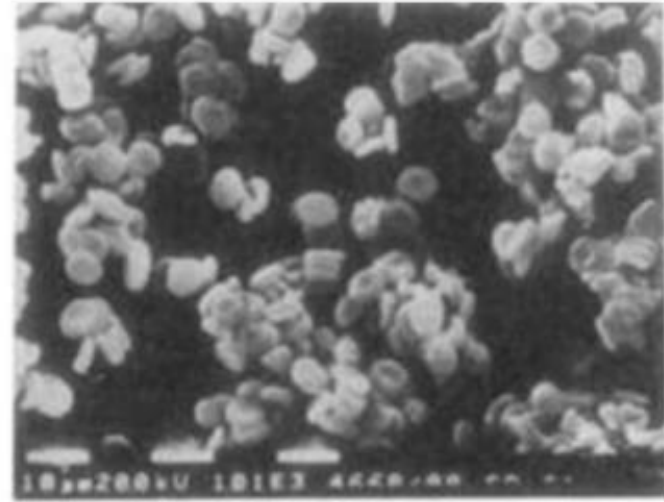
- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
 - Age of stored blood
 - SCD
- Granulocyte Transfusion

Storage Lesion

- Myriad biochemical and structural changes
- NO
 - Free hemoglobin (scavenge NO)
 - Asymmetric dimethyl arginine (inhibit NO synth)
- Decrease 2,3 BPG
- Inflammatory cytokine induction
- Promotion of bacterial growth
- Increased thrombin generation

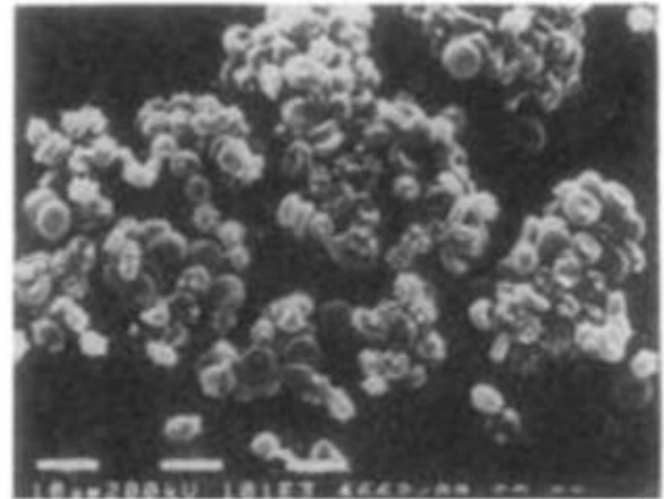
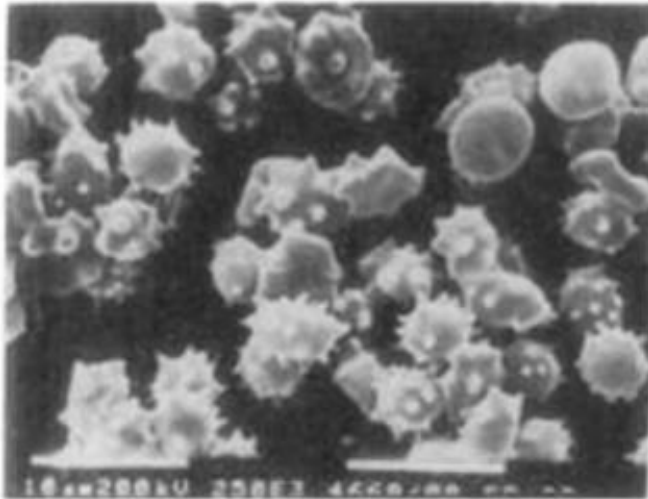
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Day 1

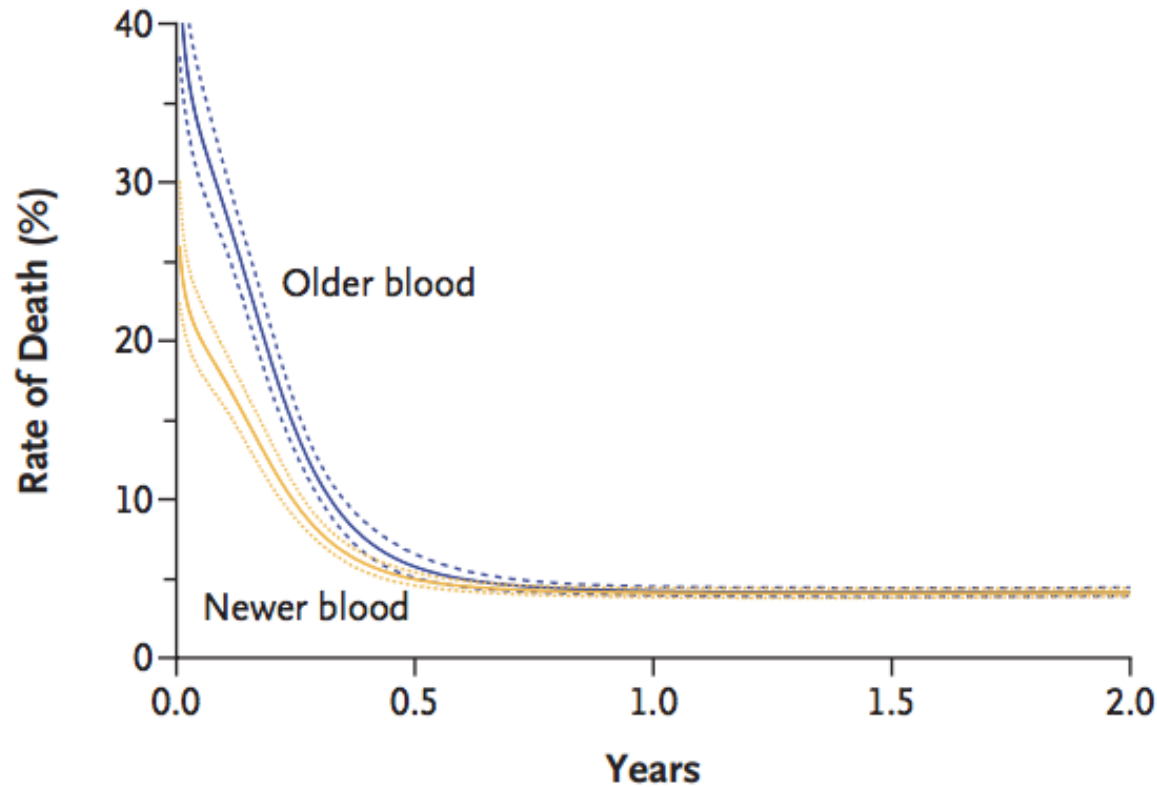


B

Day 21



The Koch Study



Cardiac surgery, 1998-2006
Exclusively +/-14d storage
Propensity score adjusted

ABO imbalanced
Not adjusted for time (practice change)

Koch, CG et al. *NEJM* 2008.



ARIPi Trial- Neonates

Figure 2. Distribution of Age of Red Blood Cell Transfusion Episodes in Fresh and Standard Groups

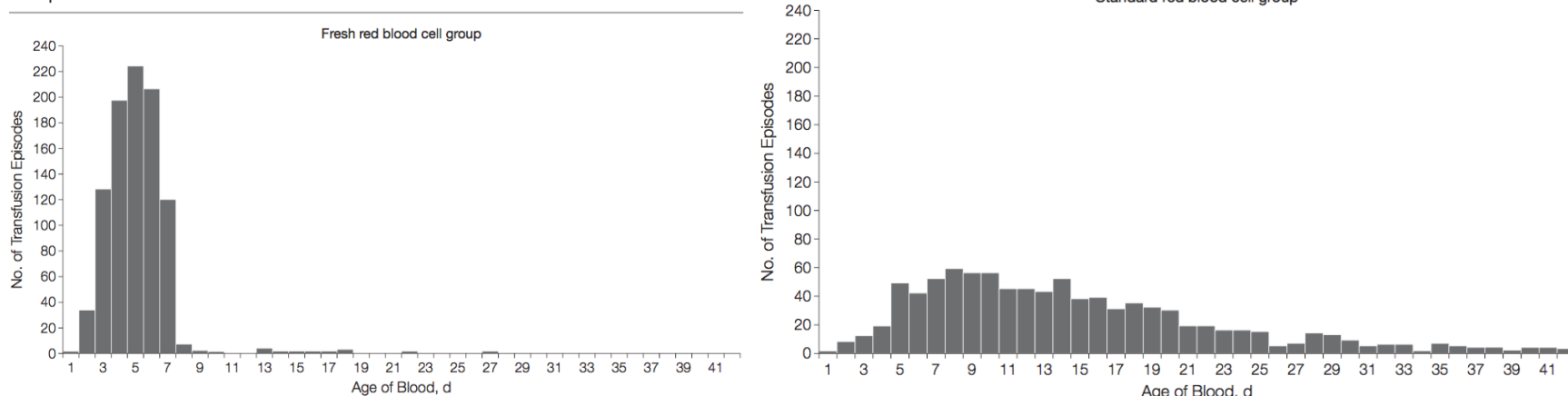


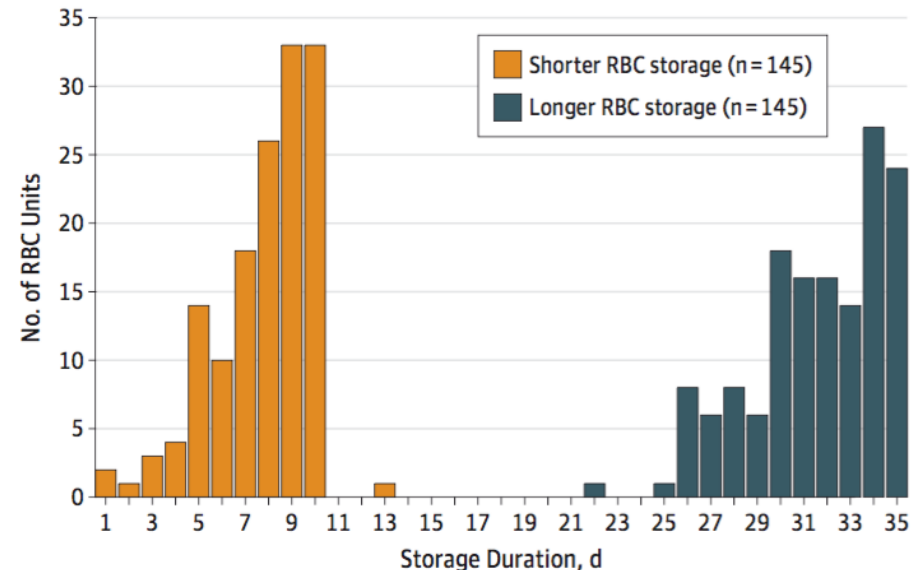
Table 4. Primary Outcomes

Primary Outcomes	No. (%)		Relative Risk (95% CI)
	Standard Red Blood Cell Group (n = 189)	Fresh Red Blood Cell Group (n = 188)	
Necrotizing enterocolitis (Bell criteria stage ≥ 2)	15 (7.9)	15 (8.0)	1.00 (0.48-2.12)
Intraventricular hemorrhage (Papile criteria grade ≥ 3)	11 (5.8)	18 (9.6)	1.65 (0.80-3.39)
Retinopathy of prematurity (stage ≥ 3)	26 (13.8)	23 (12.2)	0.89 (0.53-1.50)
Bronchopulmonary dysplasia	63 (33.3)	60 (31.9)	0.96 (0.72-1.28)
Death	31 (16.4)	30 (16.0)	0.97 (0.61-1.54)
Composite primary outcome: any of above	100 (52.9)	99 (52.7)	1.00 (0.82-1.21)

TOTAL: Ugandan PICU

- ≤ 10 vs 25-35 day
- N=290, Age 0.5-5y
- Mean Hgb 3.7
- Outcome: Lactate < 3 mmol/L @8h
- Dx: 81% malaria; 13% SCD
- No:
 - Pressors
 - Intubation
 - Dialysis

Figure 2. Duration of Red Blood Cell Storage by Study Group



TOTAL: Ugandan Children

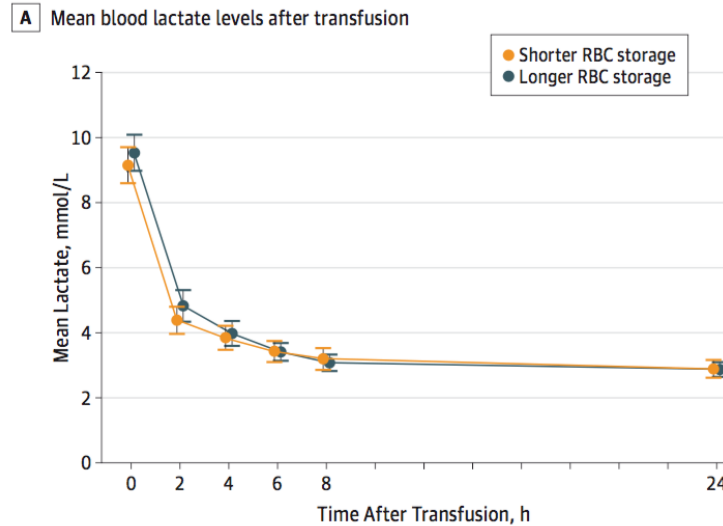
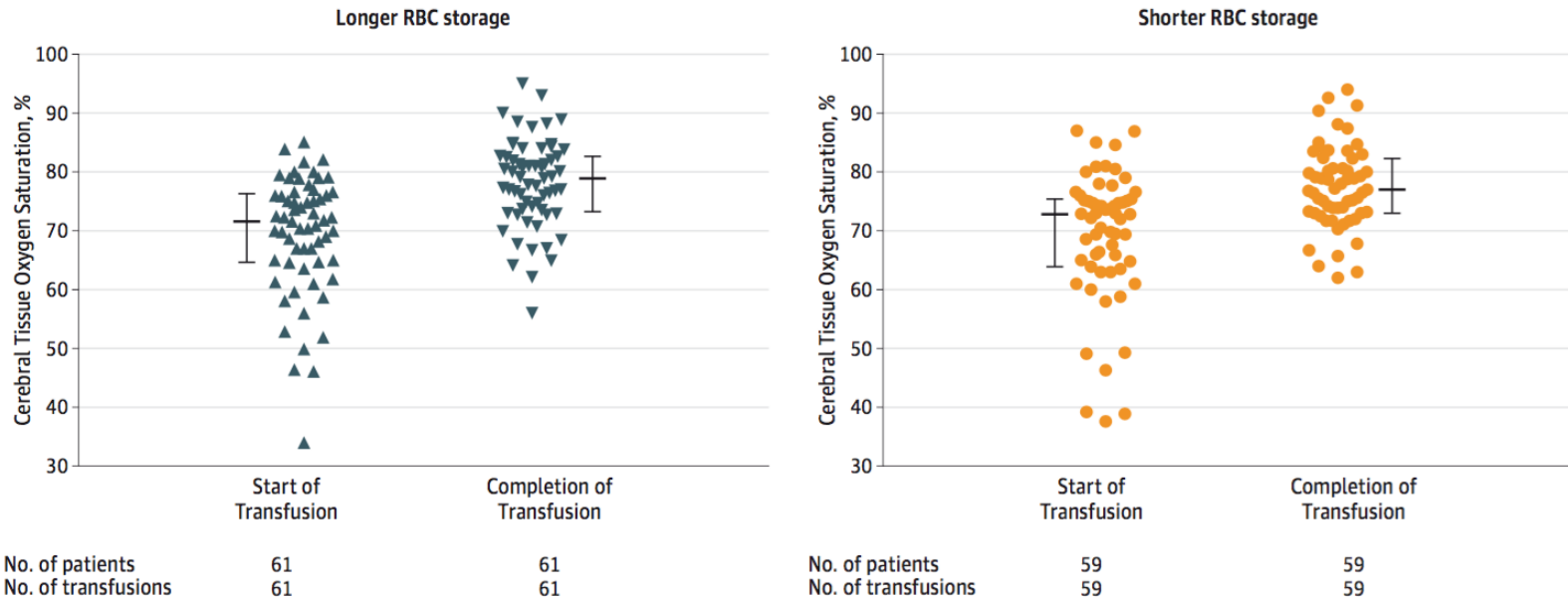


Figure 5. Cerebral Tissue Oxygen Saturation in Response to Transfusion



Dhabangi
et al.
Lancet.
2015

No. of patients
No. of transfusions

61
61

61
61

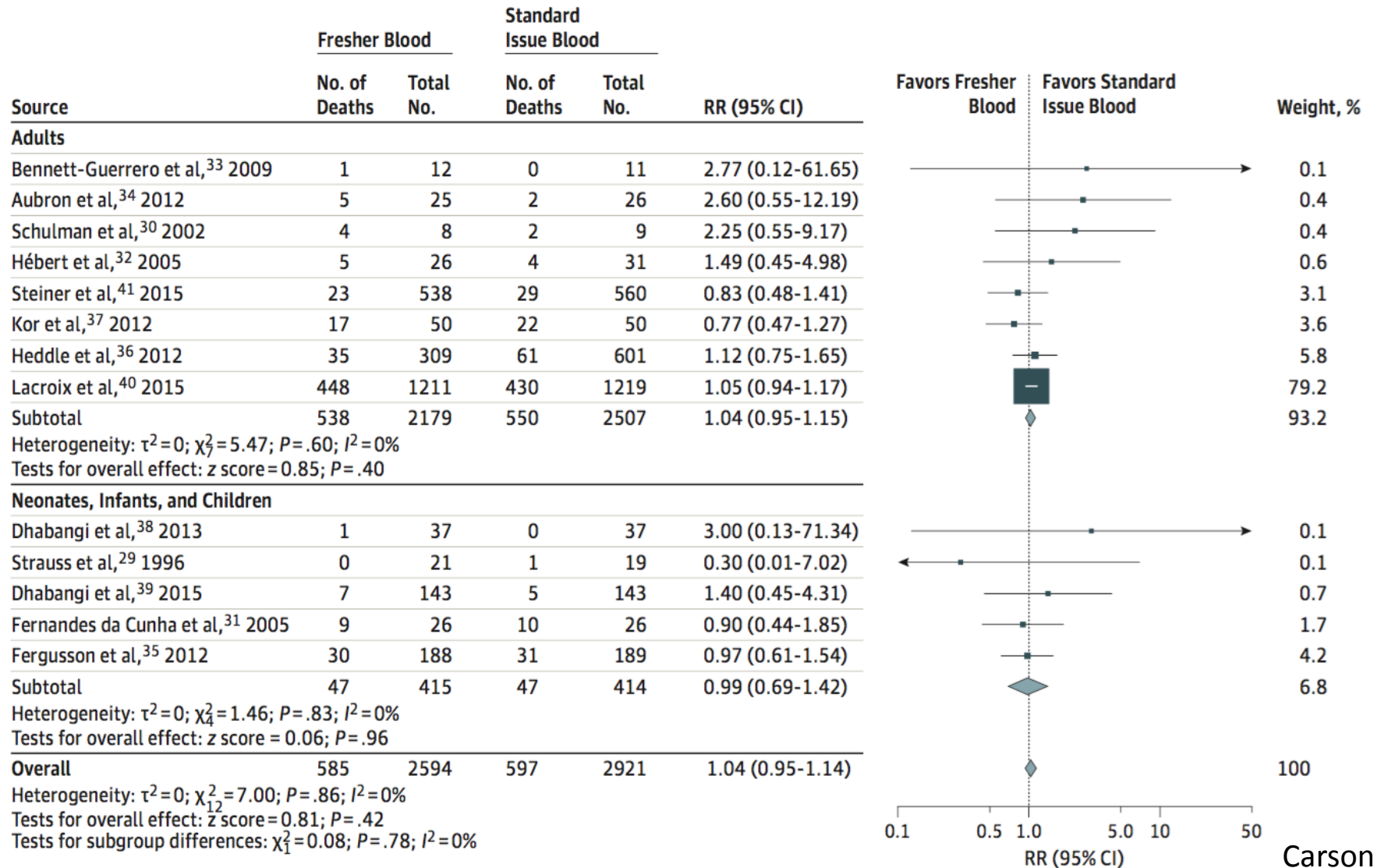
No. of patients
No. of transfusions

59
59

59
59

AABB Systematic Review-Storage Age

Figure 2. Association Between Fresher vs Standard-Issue Blood and Mortality in Adults, Neonates, Infants, and Children in Randomized Clinical Trials



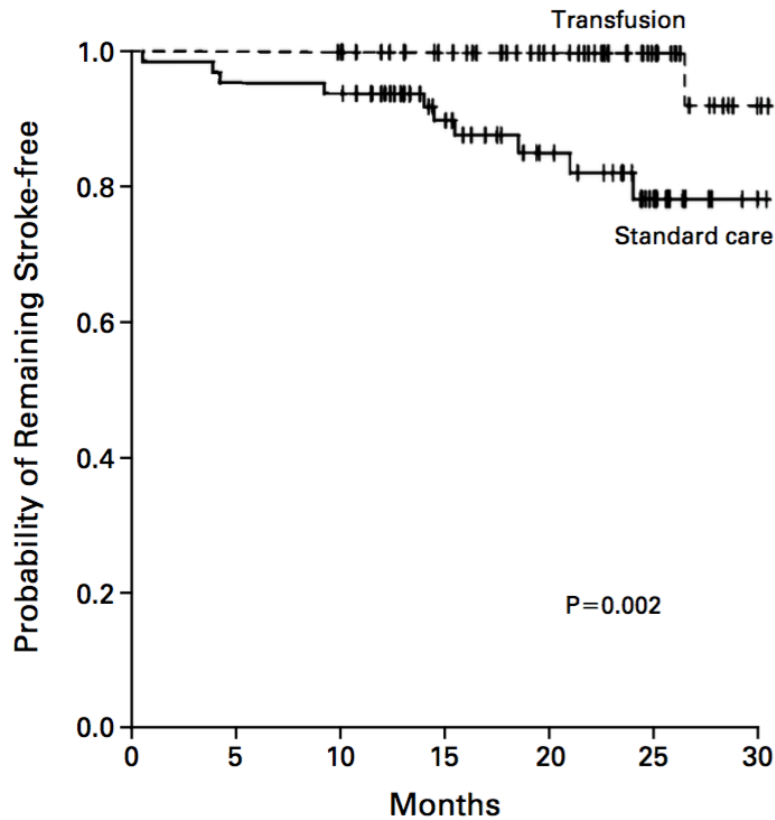
Age of RBC

- No clinical trial evidence to support using fresher blood

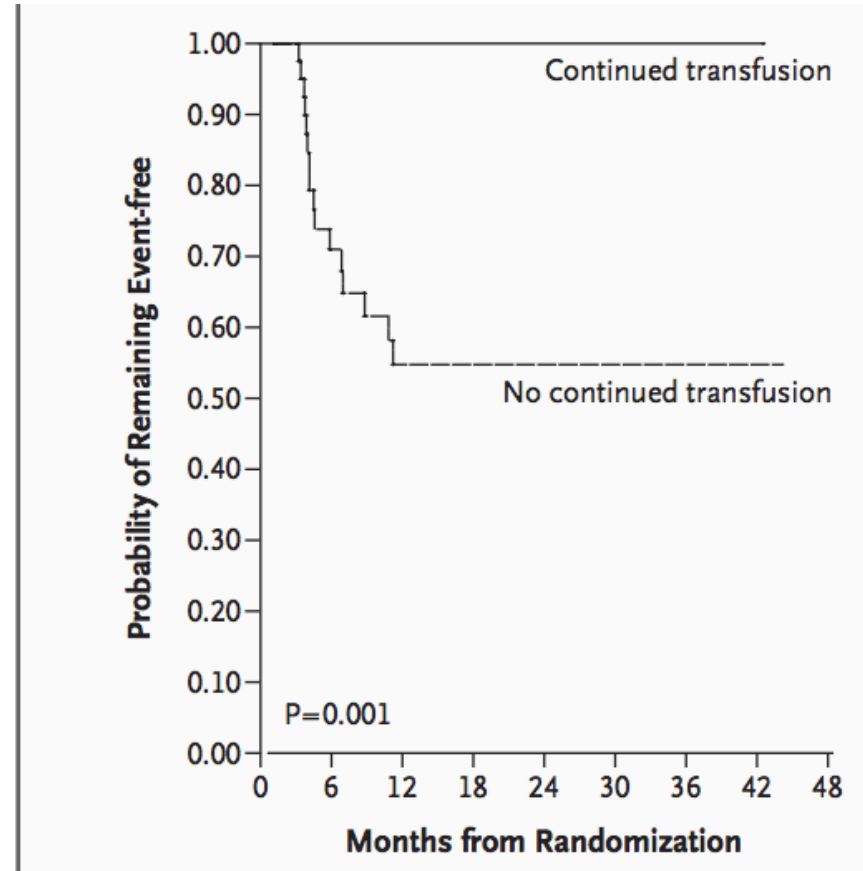
Outline

- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
 - Age of stored blood
 - **SCD**
- Granulocyte Transfusion

STOP/STOP2: Prophylactic RBC Tx Prevents Stroke in SCD with high TCD



Adams et al. *NEJM*. 1998.



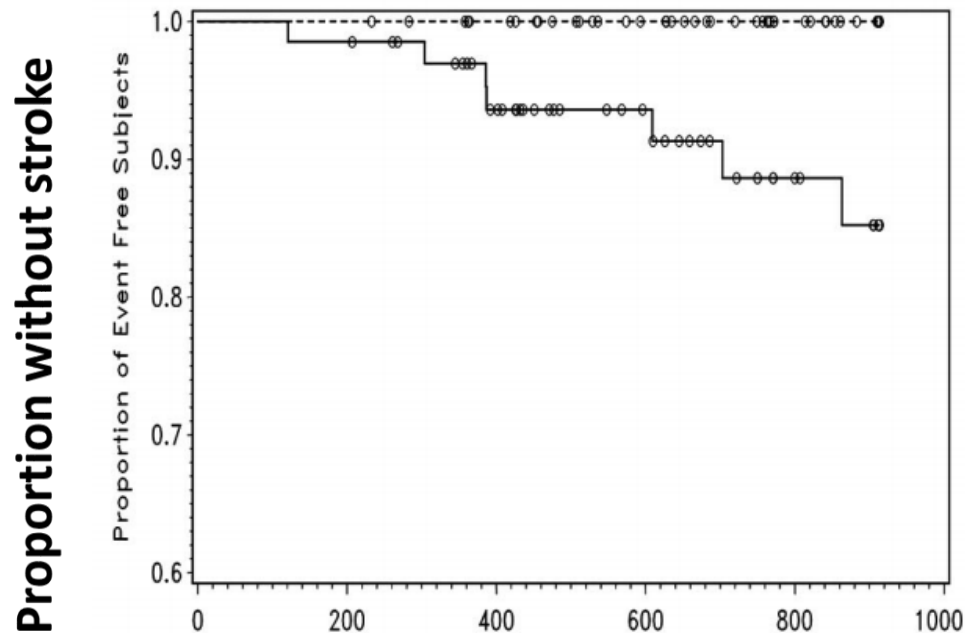
Adams et al.
NEJM. 2005.



2° Stroke Prevention:

Convert Tx to HU/Phlebotomy: SWITCH

- Non-inferiority RCT (n=134)
- Prior stroke, >1.5y tx, mean age 13y
- Composite endpoint: stroke and reduced LIC
- Terminated: LICs similar between groups

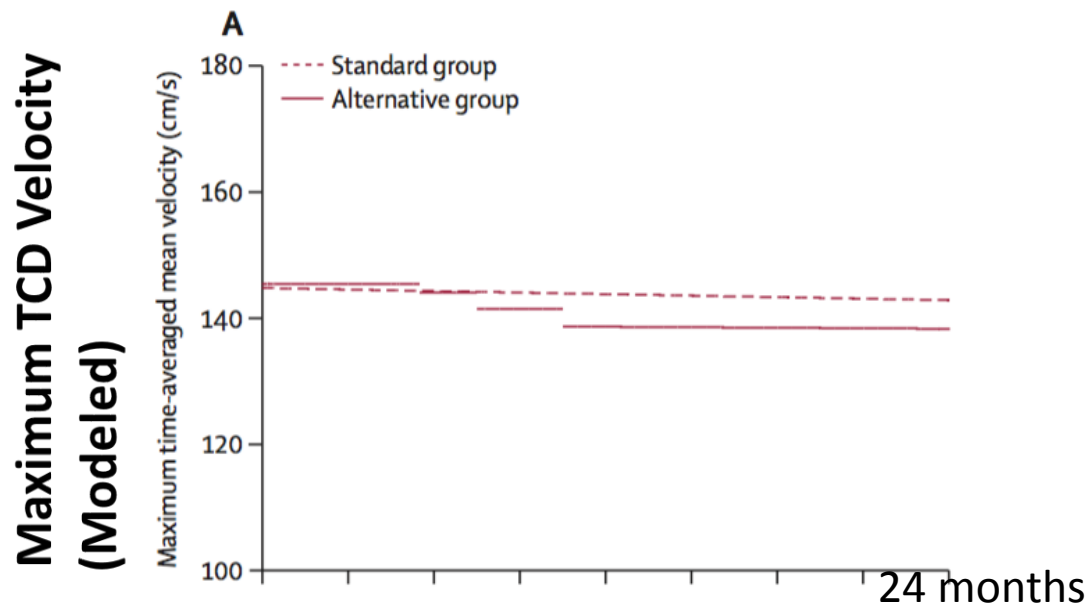


Ware et al. *Blood*. 2012

1° Stroke Prevention

Convert from Tx to HU: TWITCH

- Non-inferiority RCT
- 4-16y, TCD>200 cm/s, Tx>1y; no severe vasculopathy
- Primary outcome: change in TCD
- Terminated: non-inferiority demonstrated
- Avg HbF with HU: 27%



Ware et al. *Lancet*. 2016

Silent Stroke (SCI) Prevention Transfusion (3y) vs. Std Care: SIT

- RCT, 5-15y, no stroke, SCI by MRI
- Primary outcome: stroke or new/larger SCI

	Transfusion (n=99)	No Transfusion (n=97)
Stroke (n)	1	7
New/Larger SCI (n)	5	7

- Also improvement in SCD morbidity (cf. SWITCH)
 - ACS, VOC, priapism, AVN, HA
- HU was exclusion
- Risk/benefit of iron loading

DeBaun et al. *NEJM*. 2015

Pre-Op Tx is Important for SCD: TAPS Trial

- RCT of Tx vs. no Tx for low/moderate risk surgery (n=70)
- 97% HbSS, 60% <17y
- Terminated early: 30% (no Tx) vs. 3% (Tx) had SAE
 - Mostly ACS (n=9 vs n=1)

Summary: RBCs for SCD

- 2° stroke prevention: RBCs better than HU
- 1° stroke prevention: RBCs=HU
 - Aggressive HU
 - No severe vasculopathy
- SCI prevention: RBCs protect at-risk group from stroke
- Pre-operative RBCs important

Outline

- Platelet Transfusion
 - Prophylactic threshold
- Red Cell Transfusion
 - Threshold for transfusion
 - Age of stored blood
 - SCD
- Granulocyte Transfusion

Granulocytes

- Indications
 - ANC <500 or qualitative defect
 - Bacterial/fungal infection not responsive to Abx
 - Chance for neutrophil recovery
- Must be ABO/Rh compatible (lots of RBCs)
- Irradiated
- CMV as appropriate
- Used ASAP <4h (?<6h after amphotericin)
- Donors get dexamethasone \pm G-CSF
- Give blood bank notice if canceling granulocytes

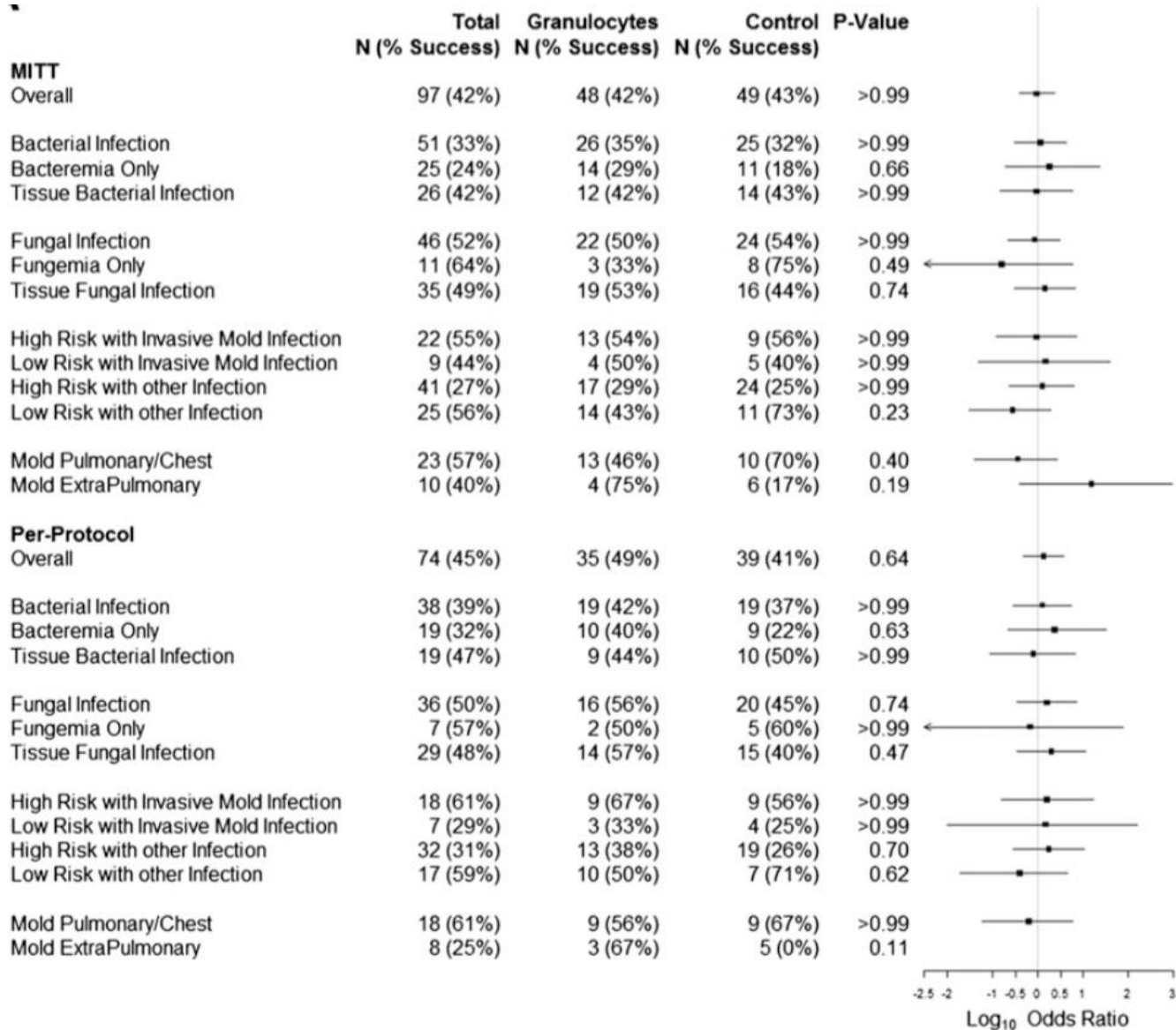
Evidence for Granulocyte Efficacy

- Best evidence from children (dose)
- No RCT
- Mean: 9 tx, 2×10^9 granulocytes/kg
- 70% survival

RING Trial

- Suspected bacterial/fungal infection with neutropenia (n=114)
- Primary outcome: alive and response to infection at 42 days
- 10% <18y

RING Trial- No differences



Limitations of RING Trial

- Terminated early: underpowered
- Patients receiving granulocytes are heterogeneous
 - E.g. Asymptomatic pulmonary fungal ball vs. skin necrosis from clostridium

Summary: Granulocyte Transfusion

- No high quality evidence for efficacy
- Still has role in select circumstances

Summary: So What Matters?

- Prophylactic platelet tx: minor difference
- Dose of platelets: no difference
- Threshold for RBC tx: no difference
- Age of stored blood: no difference
- SCD: RBCs=HU for 1° stroke prevention
- SCD: RBCs>HU for 2° stroke prevention
- SCD: RBCs superior for pre-op prophylaxis
- Granulocyte transfusion: no difference

Plasma...

Future Studies in Peds Heme/Onc

- NHLBI Scientific Priorities in Transfusion Medicine (2016)
 - Coordination with trial groups to include transfusion data
 - Oncology/HSCT: Adjuncts to transfusion to prevent hemorrhage
 - Tranexamic acid, aminocaproic acid

QUESTIONS?

Please type them in the chat box at the bottom left hand side of your screen.

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