



Transfusion Complications

Rudiments of Blood Transfusion for IV. grade medical students

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www over his

Problems of Blood Transfusion

Technical problems

Harvay (1628) Circulatory

Devising of instruments, problems of infections

Hustin, Lewisohn (1914) Hemostasis

Blood collection in bottle (1940)

Serolgical incompatibility

Landsteiner (1900) ABO blood group

Wiener (1940) Rh blood group

Other blood groups

Bacterial and viral contamination

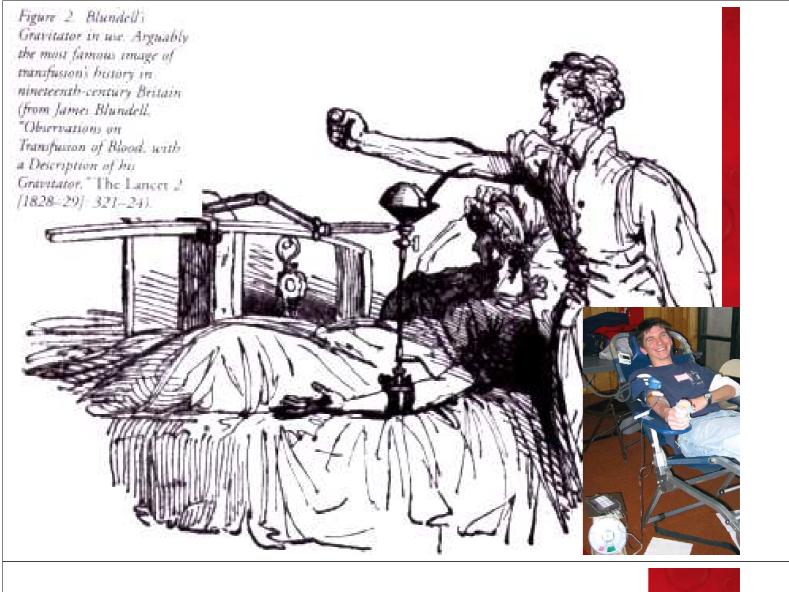
Semmelweis (1847)

Sterile closed blood collection bag system (1963)

Virus inactivation of blood products

Ignác Fülöp **Semmelweis** (Hungary)





The most important symptoms of transfusion complications:

hemolysis, hemoglobinuria
fever, rigor, chills
shortness of breath, dyspnoea
hypotension, hypertension, tachycardia
pain, malaise
skin rash, angioedema
preshock

Transfusion reactions can develop early or late after transfusion

I. Incompatibility

Immunisation, immune reactions

II. Properties of blood products

quality, quantity, administration technics

III. Pathogen agents

transmission of pathogens (virii, bacteria, protozoa)

I. Immune Complications

complications

causes

I. In vivo antigen-antibody reactions

1. Hemolysis Immediate, intravasal

Antibodies against Red Cell antigens

Late, majority of extravasal (IgG)

2. Post-transfusion purpura

Antibodies against Platelet antigen

/ Anti-HPA-1a or HLA class I /

3. TRALI **Antibodies against Granulocyte**

antigens

/ HLA or anti-HNA /

4. Allergy, anaphylaxis Antibodies against Plasma Protein

II. Immune cells in vivo effects antigens

5. TA-GVDH Viable donor lymphocytes

Difference in white blood cells HLA 6. Immunomodulation antigens





1. HAEMOLYTIC TRANSFUSION COMPLICATIONS due to blood group incompatibility

IgM antibodies

I. Intravascular haemolysis (within 24 hours)

- complement (C') activation lysis 1. Antigen - antibody binding —
- 2. Ag-A + C komplex activation of phagocytes
- 3. Release of inflammatory mediators and cytokines

The factors involved in the development of hemolysis:

- 1 ABO incompatibility the presence, titer, termal amplitude of IgM antibodies
- 2 The volume of foreign blood (20 ml)
- 3 The blood group antigen type
- 4 Actual Complement rate and regeneration rate
- 5 The Ag-Ab-complenent 'complex formation

Donor	Recipiens	Mortality %
Α	0	61
B/AB	0	20
A/AB	В	9
В	Α	4,6
O plasm	a A/AB	4,6
B plasma	a AB	0,8

RBC ABO compatibility

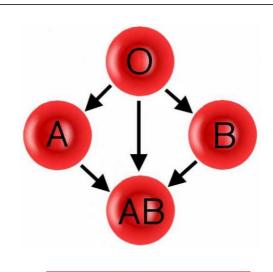


ABO incompatibility

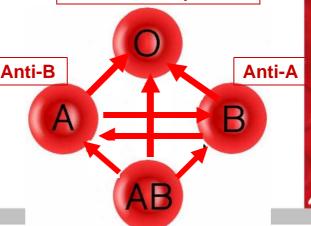


Clerical errors:

Patient identification DRSZÁGOS VÉRELLÁABO testing



anti-A, anti-B present



In vivo effects of antigen-antibody reaction:

1. Neuroendocrine response

Immune Complex - activation of Hagemann factor (F XII) - Bradykinin Hypotension - catecholamines, epinephrine Vasoconstriction (kidneys, intestines, lungs, skin)

damage of tissue oxygenation, kidney damage

2. Complement activation

C3-C5 (anaphylatoxins) release - mast cell and basophil degranulation histamine release - eosinophil degranulation platelet aggregation, release of hydrolytic enzymes from neutrophils mast cell and basophil degranulation cytokine release(TNF, IL-8, MCP, etc.) from monocytes

fever, hypotension, bronchospasm

3. Blood clotting activation

Hageman factor activation due to- Ag-Ab-C 'complex and RBC stroma DIC - intravascular thrombus formation

- utilisation of Clotting factors and platelets
- Increased fibrinolysis

bleeding, shock

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Symptoms:

- Chills and fever
- Hypotension
- Back Pain
- Tight chest pain
- Suffocation, cyanosis
- Fullness of neck veins
- Burning and itching pain running along in the infused vein
- Anxiety
- Renal impairment: oliguria, anuria (36%)
- Unusual bleeding (DIC!) (10%)
- Shock

Laboratory findings:

- 1. haemoglobinaemia (Hb binding capacity of haptoglobin!)
- 2 LDH increase
- 3 hyperbilirubinemia
- 4 haptoglobin decrease
- 5 Urea, creatinine increased in patients with renal impairment
 - haemoglobinuria

Blood from type A donor

Symptoms in anesthetized, unconscious, non-communicative patients!

- diffuse bleeding in the surgical area
- hypotension

It could be caused by administration of

10 -15 ml incompatible blood

- ABO incompatibility is usually the most severe

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-Type B (anti-A) recipient

> Donor RBCs agglutinated by recipient plasma

Agglutinated RBCs block small vessels

Intravascular haemolysis

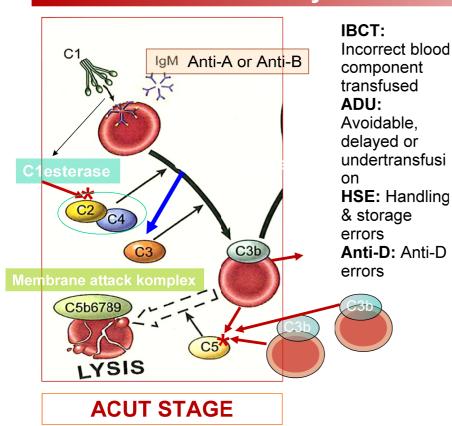


Figure 2: Cases reviewed in 2012

riguic 2. Oast	JO TO VIC	WCG III 20	
HSE	316	19.2%	
■ ADU	145	8.8%	
Anti-D	313	62.3	%
■ IBCT	252	15.3%	/0
⊠ TA-GvHD	1	0.1%	
■ TTI	3	0.2%	
⊠ PTP	1	0.1%	
CS	11	0.7%	
■ UCT	8	0.5%	
■ TAD	19	1.2%	
□ TACO	82	5.0%	—
TRALI	11	0.7%	—
☐ ALLO	69	4.2%	—
■ HTR	42	2.6%	—
ATR	372	22.6%	
TOTAL	1645	100.0%	

Treatment:

- transfusion should be stopped immediately
- At-Ag-reaction should be braked with Steroid
- antishock terapy electrolytes, plasma substitutes albumin
- restoration of tissue oxygenation selected blood transfusion
- Renal impairment management diuretics hemodialysis (10-15%)
- Fluid balance maintenance loss and intake rate
- Metabolism recovery hyponatremia, hyperkalemia
- DIC treatment
- Exchange transfusion (in the first 12-24 hours)

Tasks:

- Check data
- Consultation
- Laboratory tests blood groups, serological investigation complications, urinanalysis, free hemoglobin, renal function of tests, coagulation tests, LDH, Hp
- Sepsis investigation
- Continue monitoring of patient



II. Delayed extravascular hemolysis (5-10 days after transfusion)

- mostly occurs as a result of secondary immunization

IgG antibody

The antigen - antibody reaction consequences:

- 1 C 'activation-depends on subclasses of IgG antibody (IgG3, IgG1, IgG2, IgG4)
- 2 Extravascular lysis Immune Complex macrophage activation
- 3 Phagocytosis fragmentation lysis release of cytokines (IL-1, IL-6,TNF,IL-8)
 - ADCC (antibody dependent cellular cytotoxicity)

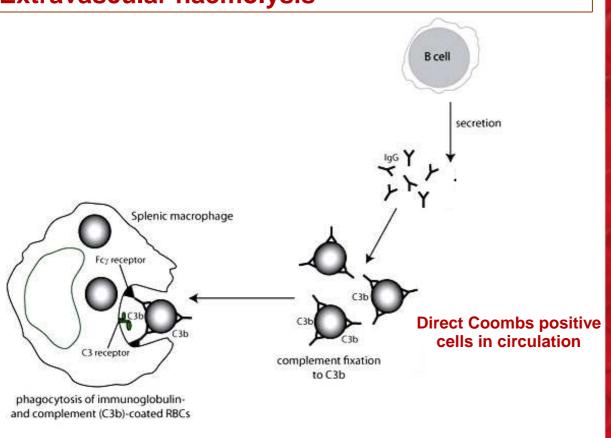
Influencing factors:

- The actual amount of the antibody
- The individual immunoglobulin synthesis rate
 - The current saturation of the phagocytic cell receptors
- The blood group antigen type
 - The amount of transfused incompatible blood

rarely fatal

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Extravascular haemolysis





Symptoms:

(from 24 hours to 3 weeks

- Fever
- Ineffectiveness of transfusion
- · Hemolysis, hemoglobin decrease, icterus, hemoglobinuria
- Hypotension
- Renal impairment (6%) treatment necessary only for these cases
- May be asymptomatic Late serological transfusion reaction

Laboratory findings:

- Positive Direct Coombs antibody-coated red blood cells
- Antibody appearance or sudden increase

A history of previous immunizations

Therapy:

- · generally not necessary
- close monitoring

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The antibodies involved in hemolytic transfusion reactions and types of hemolytic transfusion reactions

Blood group	AHTR	Delayed HTR	
system	(intravascular)	(extravascular)	
АВО,Н	A,B,H		
Rh		all types	34,4%
Kell	K	K,k,Kp ^{a+b} ,Js ^{a+}	^ь 13,3%
Kidd	Jka	Jk ^{a+b+3}	30,0%
Duffy		Fy ^{a+b}	14,4%
MNS		M,S,s,U	4,4%
Lutheran		Lub	
Lewis	Lea		
Vel		Vel	other 3,3%
Colton		Co ^{a+b}	
Dombrock		Do ^{a+b}	



Other acute intravasal hemolysis

Immune hemolysis

- ABO incompatible plasma transfusions
- AIHA patients transfusion
- Cold agglutinin disease

Non-immune haemolysis

- Red blood cell enzyme defects
- Infections
- Drugs
- Diseases associated with hemolysis

(PNH, microangiopathic hemolytic anemia)

Haemolytic blood transfusion

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2. FEBRILE REACTIONS

- Haemolysis blood group incompatibility
 - bacterial contamination (endotoxin, cell debris)
- No Haemolysis NHFTR non haemolytic febrile transfusion reactions
 - Infection (malaria)
 - Other transfusion independent reason

1. Non haemolytic febrile transfusion reactions

<u>Cause:</u> white blood cell content of blood products – cytokine effect

<u>Symptoms</u>: fever (during or after transfusion temperature increases ≥1.5 C)

flushing tachycardia shaking, chills

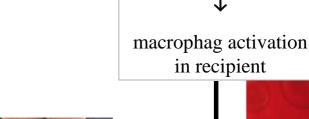
Occurrence: (6.8%) RBC products – to immunized patients

(37.5%) platelet products – to non-immunized patients_



1. NHFTR – CAUSING FACTORS:

- antibodies in the recipient serum
 - HLA antibodies
 - Anti-granulocyte antibodies
 - Anti-platelet antibodies
- stored PLT products
 - destroyed granulocytes





Release of pyrogens

Ag-At-C' complex

 $(TNF-\alpha, IL-1, IL-6)$

Treatment:

- mild: interrupt the transfusion antipyretic –
- severe: antipyretic differential diagnosis!

Unit causing complications should not be administered.!

Prevention: - removal of white blood cells before blood product storage (removal buffy coat, filtration)

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2. PTP – post transfusion purpura

acut complication – **one weak after transfusion**Prior immunization - especially women

Anti-platelet antibody

Cause: 80-90% anti-HPA-1a other: anti- HPA-1b, -3a, -4a, -5b

Symptoms: - bleeding -severe thrombocytopenia -!

- fever - NHFTR (+ anti-HLA antibodies)

Differential diagnosis: ITP, drug induced trombocytopenia, TTP, DIC

Treatment: - immediately!

- high-dose IVIG (2g/ kg bw for 2-5 days)
- steroid
- plasma exchange
- blood products (RBC or PLT) only from antigen negative donors

After PLT administration both administered and own PLT destruction occur! Reasons: donor HPA-1a antigen or recipient Ag-Ab complex binding to the recipient's platele or cross-reactive antibody production

3. TRALI - transfusion related acut lung injury

severe acute reaction within 6 hours

<u>Cause:</u> - anti – granulocyte antibodies (HLA/HNA)

- often in blood products (*multipara women plasma*)

Symptoms!y in recipient's serum

- Dyspnea (respiratory distress)
- Severe hypoxia, cyanosis, hypotension
- Severe bilateral pulmonary edema
- Fever

Factors responsible for developing TRALI

Neutrophyl activation

- Ab-Ag komplex leucoembolus C'mediated WBC activation
 - pulmonar endothelial damage
- leukocyte activation in blood components during storage



- steroid

4. Allergy, anaphylaxis: - acut reation /may be life threatening

Etiology: antibody against donor blood proteins/ IgA content! transfusing of allergens nutrients, drugs (Aspirin, ACE inhibitor) passive transfer of IgE (to drugs, food), or complement

Symptoms:

Mild reactions - malaise

- Itchy, burning red spots / neck, thorax /
- local urticaria
- Low-grade fever, fever

The transfusion could be continued after treatment

Sever reactions - Swollen mucosa / laryngeal edema - shortness of breath

- Anaphylactic shock

The transfusion should be stoped

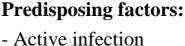
Treatment: - antipyretic, fluid replacement

- antihistamines, Ca- preparations
- Steroids (Cortisone, Prednisolone)
- Epinephrine (Adrenaline)

Prophylaxis: - IgA-free blood to IgA deficient patient

- No (or IgA deficient) plasma transfusion
- washed blood products





- Cytokine therapy

- Surgery or massive transfusion















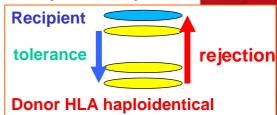
5. TA-Graft versus host reaction

few cases, high mortality >90%

complex immune process which is caused by immunocompetent donor lymphocytes against immunocompromised or immunocompetent recipient

Etiology: transfusion of haploidentical blood products

blood transfusion from relatives



Symptoms: Fever, rash, liver dysfunction, diarrhea commencing in 1-2 weeks post-transfusion followed by pancytopenia later

Risk factors: Any condition with impaired cellular immunity, or not developed immunological competence / premature babies and newborns/

- transplantation, leukaemia, lymphoma
- intrauterin transfusion, exchange transfusion, extracorporeal circulation

Therapy: Largely ineffective

immunosuppressive therapy, high dose steroids?

Prevention: For patients at risk (e.g., imunocompromised patients), it is critical to **irradiate cellular blood components** (RBC and platelets).

6. Transfusion-related immunomodulation (TRIM)

Transient immunosuppression

Etiology: Allogeneic leucocyte-containing RBC transfusions

the presence of foreign HLA class II. antigens (the role of HLA DR 3 is suspected)

Cellular effects:

Decreased T helper reaction

Increased T cell suppressor activity

Increased B cell antibody production

Impaired NK cell function

Defective antigen presentation

Clinical signs:

reduced graft rejection
decreased recidive in Crohn's patients
increased risk of cancer recurrence
increased postoperative infection rate
potential risk of tumorous disease in adult age

Prophylaxis: leucodepletion of blood products in question



II. Early non immune complications

Complication	Etiology	
Heart failure	volume overload / Whole blood, FFP /	
High fever and shock	bacterial infection	0
hypothermia	Too rapid administration of cold blood	000
	/ Massive transfusion /	. 0
Hemolysis	physical or chemical damage of the the blood administered	Die
air embolism	Transfusion uder uncontrolled high pressure or priming	C
Hypocalcemia	Massive transfusion of citrate- containing blood products / plasma ! /	
Hyperkalemia	massive transfusion of old blood	

1. Transfusion-related circulatory overload (TACO

may develop within 1 to 2 hours of transfusion

Symptoms: acut pulmonary oedema

(dispnoea, cyanosis, head ache, hypertension, heart failure)

Frequency: about 1% children and elderly patients

cardiac and/or pulmonary decompensation

chronic anemia (plasma)

chronic renal failure

Ethiology: - high volume transfusion (whole blood, plasma)

- high (20-25%) concentration albumin infusion

- rapid or massive transfusion

Therapy: Stop transfusion immediately

upright position, diuretics, oxygen

Prevention:

Slow rate transfusion!



2. Massive transfusion syndrome

Mortality about 60%

Transfusion of severe shock patients

(10-15 U blood in 24 hours or replacement of 1 blood volume(TBV))

Symptoms:

bleeding - dilution and consumption of platelets and clotting factors(DIC) severe hypoxia in tissues

Multiplex complications: Coagulation, biochemistry (hypocalcaemia, hyperkalaemia)

acid base abnormality, hypothermia

Therapy: fluid replacement, blood (fresh warmed blood!), cardiac support

3. Cold blood transfusion

Decrease in tissue oxygenation

Symptoms: ventricular arrhythmias

impaired blood coagulation

worsen of hypokalcemia and hyperkalaemia symptoms

peripheral vasoconstriction increased calorie need

Prevention: Use of blood warmer

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Sources of infection:

donor arm or donor granulocytes

poor venipuncture technique - foamy blood

• storage temperature, inappropriate storage

opened blood bag, not cleaned water bath

Signs in blood product:

hemolysis, clots, cloudy plasma - white-gray precipitate, bacterial or fungal colonies on surface

Prevention: donor skin desinfection, removal of first aliquot of donor blood

good product collecting and manufacturing (closed system!)

controlled blood product storage

opened products management to appropriate standards

Symptoms: fever, chills, RR decrease, **severe rapid shock**, DIC,

intavascular hemolysis, heart, liver, kidney failure

Treatment: stop transfusion immediately

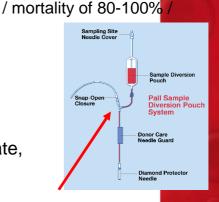
shock therapy, resuscitation

i.v. broad-spectrum antibiotics

Bacteriological examination

blood culture test of blood product and patient blood samples





5. Transfusion of haemolytic blood:

several liters of old stored blood conteins harmful amount of hemoglobin

 large amounts of Hb appears as a cylinder in renal tubular causing renal failure

/ Renal disease patients, shock, dehydration /

Reasons for the development of hemolysis in blood product:

- Outdated RBCs
- Drugs or infusion solutions mixing with blood product.
- Thermal effects Heat or freezing (temperature above 38°C)
- Bacterial contamination
- **Mechanical** damage shaking, harsh handling and transport (Thin needle, artificial heart valves, extracorporeal circulation, high pressure transfusion, etc.).

<u>Prevention</u>: - high quality blood products

- considering of transfusion indication

Treatment: - remove Hb / infusions, diuretics /

- Urine alkalinisation

országos vérellátó szodesferroxamin



6. Air embolism:

very rare since using plastc blood bags

the foamy blood is transferred into right ventricle

Causes:

- inadequate priming of transfusion set
- transfusion with overpressure

Symptoms: Cough • Dyspnea • Chest pain • Shock

Prevention: the appropriate use of technology

<u>Treatment:</u>: ➤ Laying the patient on the **left side**

- Rhythmic compression of the chest
- Suction of the frothy blood with catheter
- resuscitation

7. Citrate intoxication

massive transfusion with plasma

Infants, patients with heart disease or liver disease

Symptoms: - Neuromuscular disorders / tetany

- Cardiac arrhythmia

Treatment: Ca support





8. Transfusion of hyperkalemic blood:

High risk in hyperkalemic conditions / uremia, heart disease, massive transfusion acidosis / or in infants

Symptoms: arrhythmia, cardiac arrest

Prevention: - exchange transfusion with blood less than 7 days

- massive blood transfusion with blood less than 10 days

- RBC washing

- use of in-line potassium filters

Treatment: - 10% NaCl, NaHCO3 or Ca composition

Hypertonic glucose / + insulin/Ion exchange resin / Resonium /

- Dialysis, hemofiltration



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III. Infection transmission

Non immune late transfusion complications

Complications	Causes
Hemosiderosis	Politransfusion / > 100 U vvs /
Hepatitis	HBV /±DELTA/, HCV, HGV/?/, HAV, HEV,CMV
AIDS	HIV-I, HIV -II / after years? /
CLL /adult T-cell/	HTLV -I
TSP tropical spasticus paraparesis	HTLV-II (human T lymphotrope virus)
Zoonosis	Malaria, kala-azar, babesiosis
Syphilis	Treponema Pallida
Aplastic anaemia	Parvovírus B 19
Fetal damage	CMV

1. Hemosiderosis:

accumulation of iron in organs

1U blood transfusion - 200 mg iron intake

Cause: 50 - 100 U RBC transfusion

transfusion of large amount hemolyzed blood

Symptoms: RES – organs failure - heart, liver, endocrin organs

bronze skin, liver cirrhosis, heart failure

Treatment:

chelation therapy - iron removal desferoxamine, deferiprone, deferasirox

exchange transfusion phlebotomy

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Bacteria

Treponema

pallidum (syphilis)

Blood Fraction Pathogens

_			
D	26	m	2

Hepatitis A virus Hepatitis B virus Hepatitis C virus Hepatitis D virus

Hepatitis G virus¹

Virus

HIV

Parvovirus B 19

(Prions)

Red blood cells

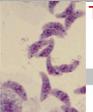
Plasmodium (malaria) Babesia microti (babesiosis)

Protozoa

White blood cells HIV I and II

Epstein Barr vírus Cytomegalovirus

virii as with plasma



Toxoplasma gondii (toxoplasmosis)





Risks of transfusion-transmissible infection

Agent and testing standard	Window period	Estimate of residual risk 'per unit' (a)
HIV (antibody + NAT)	5.6 days	Less than 1 in 1 million
HCV (antibody + NAT)	3.1 days	Less than 1 in 1 million
HBV (HBsAg + NAT)	23.9 days	Approximately 1 in 538,000
HTLV 1 & 2 (antibody)	51 days	Less than 1 in 1 million
CID [No tooting]		Dogoible

vCJD [No testing] Possible

Malaria (antibody) 7-14 days Less than 1 in 1 million

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Australian data

Estimated risk of infection from transfusion in the UK (Public Health England, 2013) and risk of major morbidity or death (all causes) from transfusion based on SHOT data for 2012 (Bolton-Maggs *et al*, 2013a).

	Risk per million
	donations [95%
	confidence interval]
	for viral infections,
	and per million
	components issued
Category	for SHOT data

Reciprocal expression of same risks, 1 per number of components issued

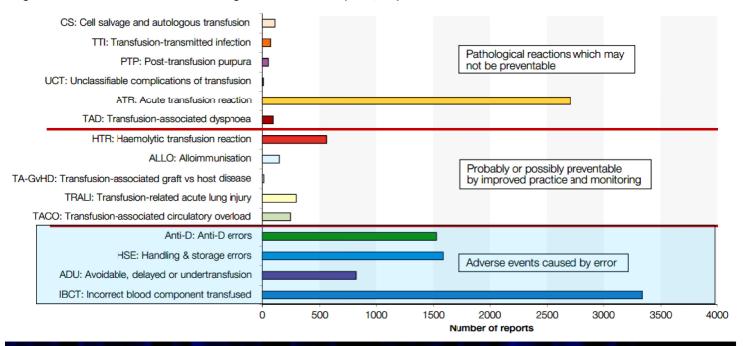
Major morbidity	46·7 (all causes)	1 in 21 413
Death	3-1 (all causes)	1 in 322 580
Hepatitis B	0.76 [0.22-1.61]	1 in 1⋅3 million
Hepatitis C	0.036 [0.015-0.07]	1 in 28 million
HIV	0.15 [0.09-0.32]	1 in 6⋅7 million



Reported transfusion adverse events



Figure 1: Cumulative data for SHOT categories 1996/7-2012 (n=11,570)



CONTACT DETAILS SHOT Office, Manchester Blood Centre,

> **Transfusion related death** reported the FDA 2008-2012 (US Food and Drug Administration, 2013).

Complication	Total (n)	%
Transfusion-related acute lung injury	74	37
Haemolytic transfusion reactions (non-ABO)	31	16
Haemolytic transfusion reactions (ABO)	22	11
Microbial infection	21	11
Transfusion-associated circulatory overload	35	18
Anaphylaxis	12	6
Other	3	1
	198	100

Estimated risk per t	ransfused blood	components
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HIV 1 in 1 467 000

HCV 1 in 1,149,000

1 in 282,000 to 1 in 357,000 **HBV**

Haemolysis (death) 1 in 1 250 000





Transmissible pathogens in the stored donor's blood

Sepsis by bacteria transfer:

Endotoxin formation is during storage!

RBC transfusion:

Yersinia enterocolitica (51%) + 4C°
Pseudomonas fluorescens (26,5%)
Treponema pallidum (4,1%)
Pseudomonas putida (4,1%

PLT transfusion: (storage: +20 C°)
Staphylococus epidermidis (25%)
Salmonella coholerae-suis (13,5%)
Serratia marcescens (9,6%)
Staphylococcus aureus (5,8%)
Bacillus cereus (5,8%)
Streptococcus viridans (3,8%)

Virus transmission:

<u>Problems:</u> - new mutants and new virii - expansion of vector-borne diseases - dengue fever, chikungunya, WNV

- Screening tests do not detect fresh infection

procedures are at experimental state for la not available for all countries

- Virus inactivation labile blood products or prions

Hemovigilance

is a "quality process" which aims to improve quality and increase safety of blood transfusion, by surveying all activities of the blood transfusion chain, from donors to recipients. Haemovigilance means a set of organised surveillance procedures relating to serious adverse or unexpected events or reactions in donors or recipients, and the epidemiological follow-up of donors incluing obligation of adverse events reporting.



Deaths due to transfusion complications

USA: 1511/ 19 230 000 /year = 7 / 100 000

Hungary: 1 / 100 000 transfusion

Reporting institution? Transfused blood?

Distribution of transfusion complications

Cause of complications	SHOT (n=169)	Pécsi RVK (n=134)
Wrong blood group	47%	59%
Acut transfusion reaction	13%	18%
Late transfusion reaction	13%	16%
PTP	1%	0,8%
GVHD	1%	0
TRALI (or respiratory symptoms)	7%	6%





Immediate complications

Within 10 – 15 minutes

ABO – incompatibility

Anaphilaxis

Air embolism

Late complications

1 – 7 after transfusion

Delayed immunohemolysis

Immunisation

Immunodeficiency

TA-Graft versus host disease

Hemosiderosis (months, years)

Early complications

Within 1 – 24 hours

Allergy

Febrile non-hemolytic complications

Haemolytic complications of immunised patients

Haemolytic complication of anesthetized patients

Circulatory overload

Citrate intoxication

Endotoxin shock

Hypothermia

Coagulation disorders

Trombembolia

Transmission of pathogens

Weeks, month, years after transfusion

Hepatitis (B,C stb.) CMV HIV and other virii (EBV, Parvovísus B19)

Lues and other bakteria

Malaria, babesiosis and other protozoa



The basic principles of transfusion:

HOW to transfuse?

Blood cannot be manufactured – it can only come from generous donors. The blood availability is limited and there are many risks of blood transfusion.

You should transfuse blood

- 1 never unnecessarily
- 2 if there is an appropriate indication
- 3 only the necessary blood components
- 4 effective amount of component
- 5 with prudent blood management