



# Patient Blood Management Are you providing this?

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# Disclosures

- **Relevant relationships with commercial entities:**
  - Octapharma, CSL Behring = cardiac and trauma trials
  - Canadian Blood Services = trial funding
- **Potential for conflicts within this presentation:**
  - RBC use
- **Steps taken to review and mitigate potential bias:**
  - Advocating using less of CBS' and HQ's products!

# Objectives

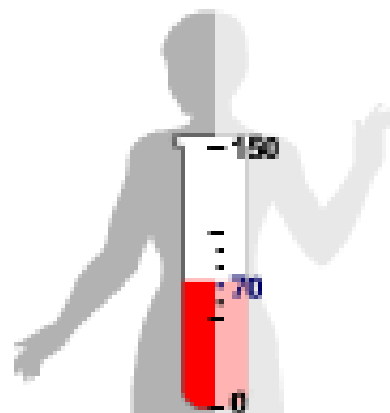
- 1) What is patient blood management?**
- 2) Is blood really that bad for you?
- 3) Does PBM save money?
- 4) Does PBM improve outcomes?
- 5) Is this an expectation of your hospital?

**PBM is not just...**

Epo and iv iron before  
surgery to correct anemia

# What is PBM?

A multifaceted approach designed so that transfusion is unnecessary



# Not just elective surgery!

- Trauma patients
  - Tranexamic acid reduces death rate
  - If given appropriately = 100,000 preventable deaths
- Cancer patients
  - iv iron reduces transfusion rate when added to ESAs (Cochrane review 2016; Mhaskar et al)
- Pregnancy
  - Oral iron decreases the risk of anemia at delivery
- GI hemorrhage
  - Tranexamic acid, restrictive blood use, OGD, PPIs
  - 15% of blood is used for GI bleeds

# Oral Fe in pregnancy prevents anemia

Milman N, et al. Acta Obstet Gyn Scand 2005; 84: 238-247.

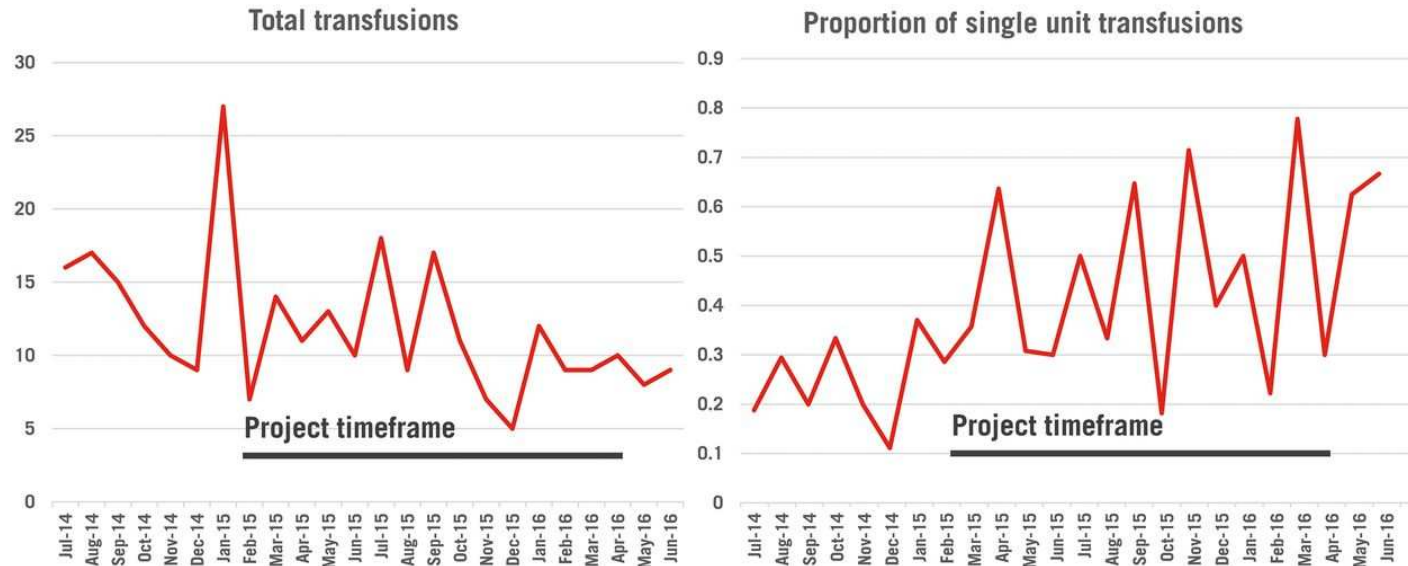
- *60 mg of elemental iron (on an empty stomach) is enough*
  - 427 women randomized to 20 mg, 40 mg, 60mg, 80 mg from 18 weeks to delivery

Dose	Iron Deficiency	IDA
20	29%	10%
40	11%	5% Gluconate
60	10%	0% Sulfate
80	9%	1.5%

# Anemia management in pregnancy

- CBC, ferritin at 12 weeks; iron treatment (po or iv as needed); restrictive single unit tx

## TOTAL AND SINGLE UNIT TRANSFUSIONS



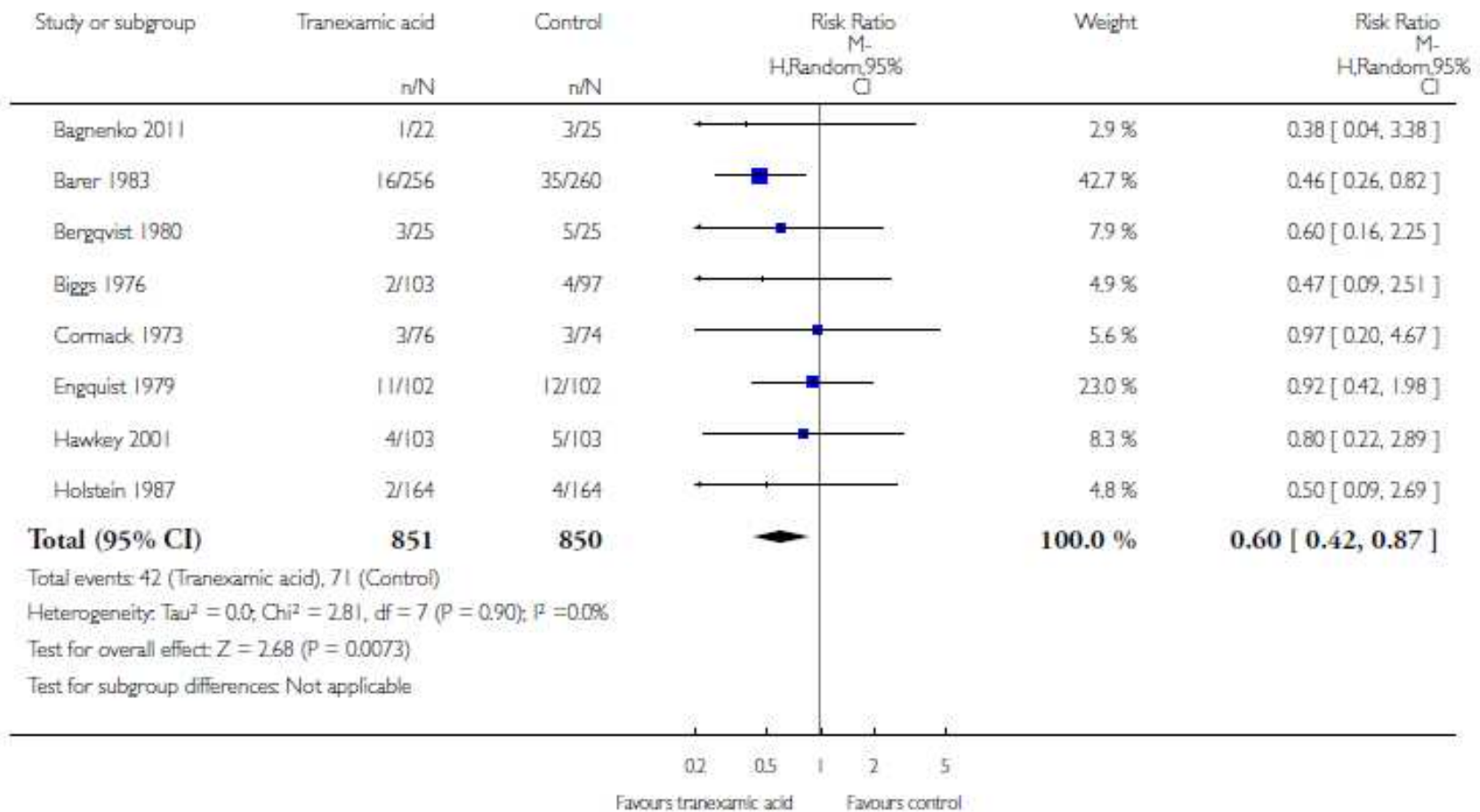


## Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Tranexamic acid vs placebo, Outcome 1 Mortality.

Review: Tranexamic acid for upper gastrointestinal bleeding

Comparison: 1 Tranexamic acid vs placebo

Outcome: 1 Mortality  **MORTALITY!**



Cochrane Review, Bennett et al, 2014

HALT-IT

Upper or Lower GI bleeding

1 + 3 gram TXA

Mortality endpoint

**7768 of 8000 patients**

**32 to go!**

# It should not include

- Pre-operative autologous donation
- Directed blood donations
- Acute normovolemic hemodilution

**8** Don't routinely order perioperative autologous and directed blood collection.

# Objectives

- 1) What is patient blood management?
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# Is liberal use of blood bad for you?

## MAYBE

Outcome	N	RR	Range	NNT
Mortality	2364	0.80	0.65-0.98	33
Acute CS	1727	0.44	0.22-0.89	50
CHF	2364	0.48	0.33-0.73	33
Rebleeding	889	0.64	0.45-0.90	17
Bacterial	2364	0.86	0.73-1.00	33
Transfusion	2364	0.57	0.46-0.70	2

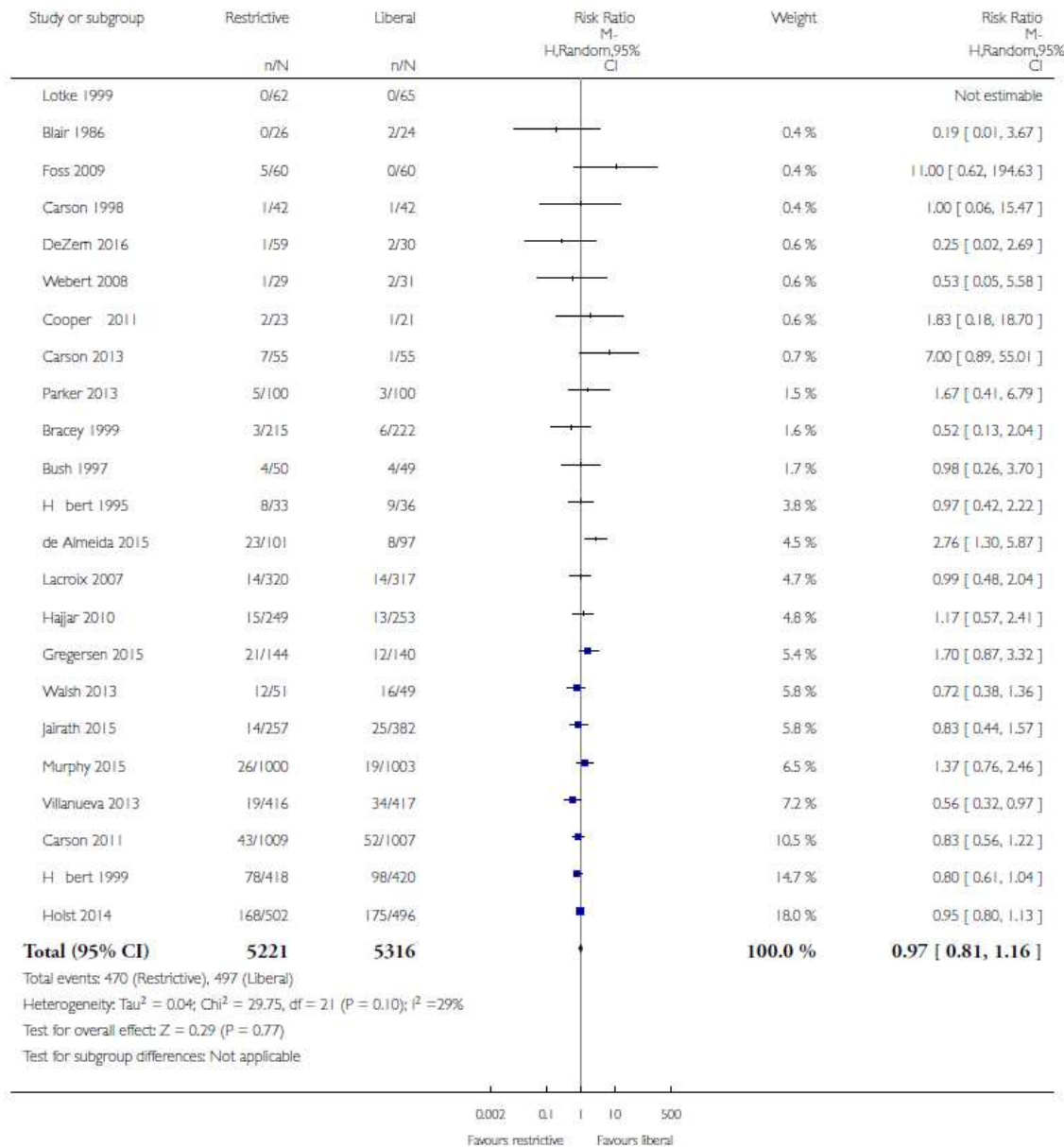
*The American Journal of Medicine (2014) 127, 124-131*

**Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Mortality at 30 days, Outcome 1 30-day mortality.**

Review: Transfusion thresholds and other strategies for guiding allogeneic red blood cell transfusion

Comparison: 1 Mortality at 30 days

Outcome: 1 30-day mortality



*A restrictive strategy reduces the risk of transfusion by OR=0.57*

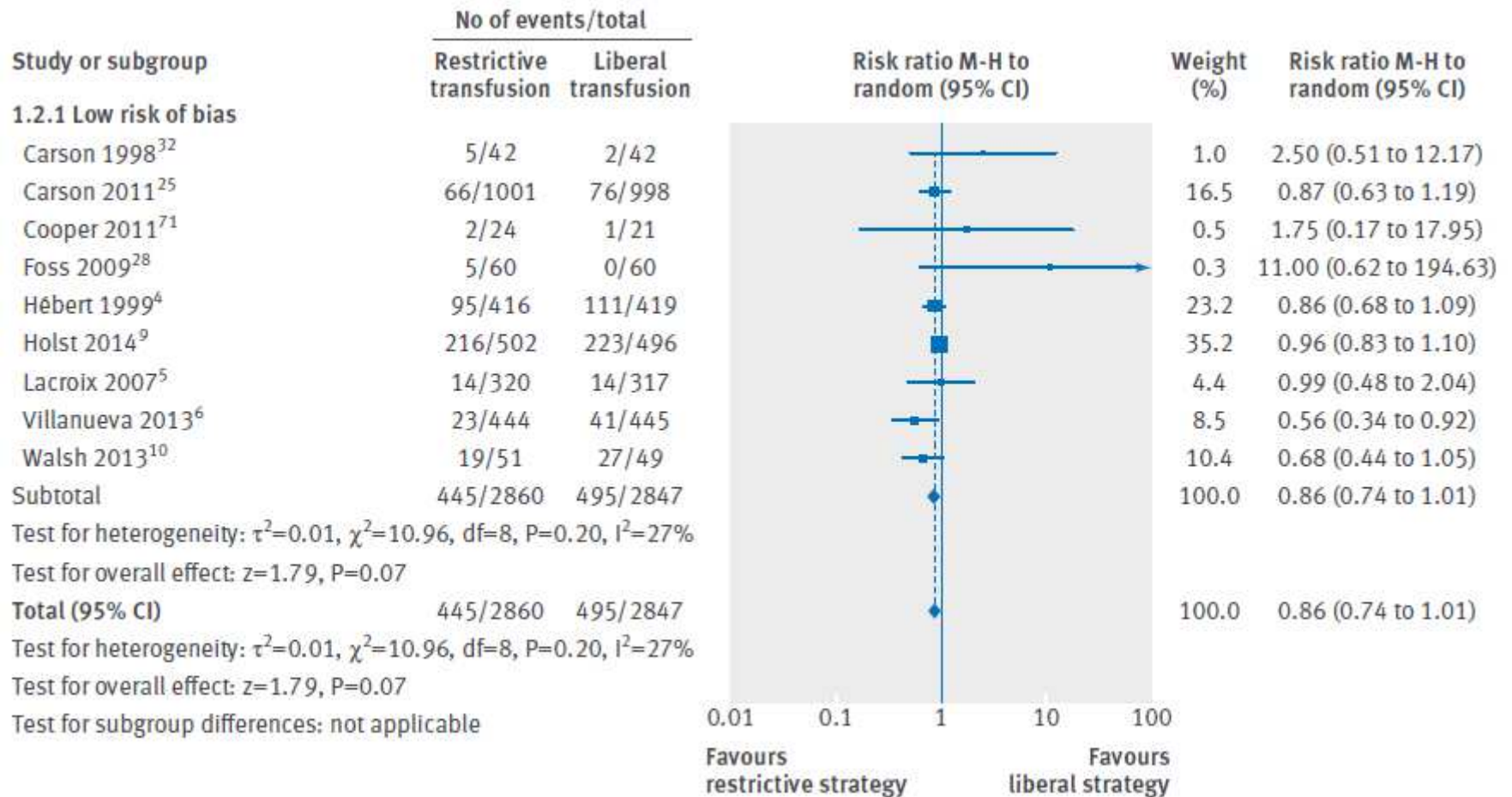
No improvement in mortality with liberal use of blood

No difference for any subgroups

OR 0.97 (0.81-1.16)

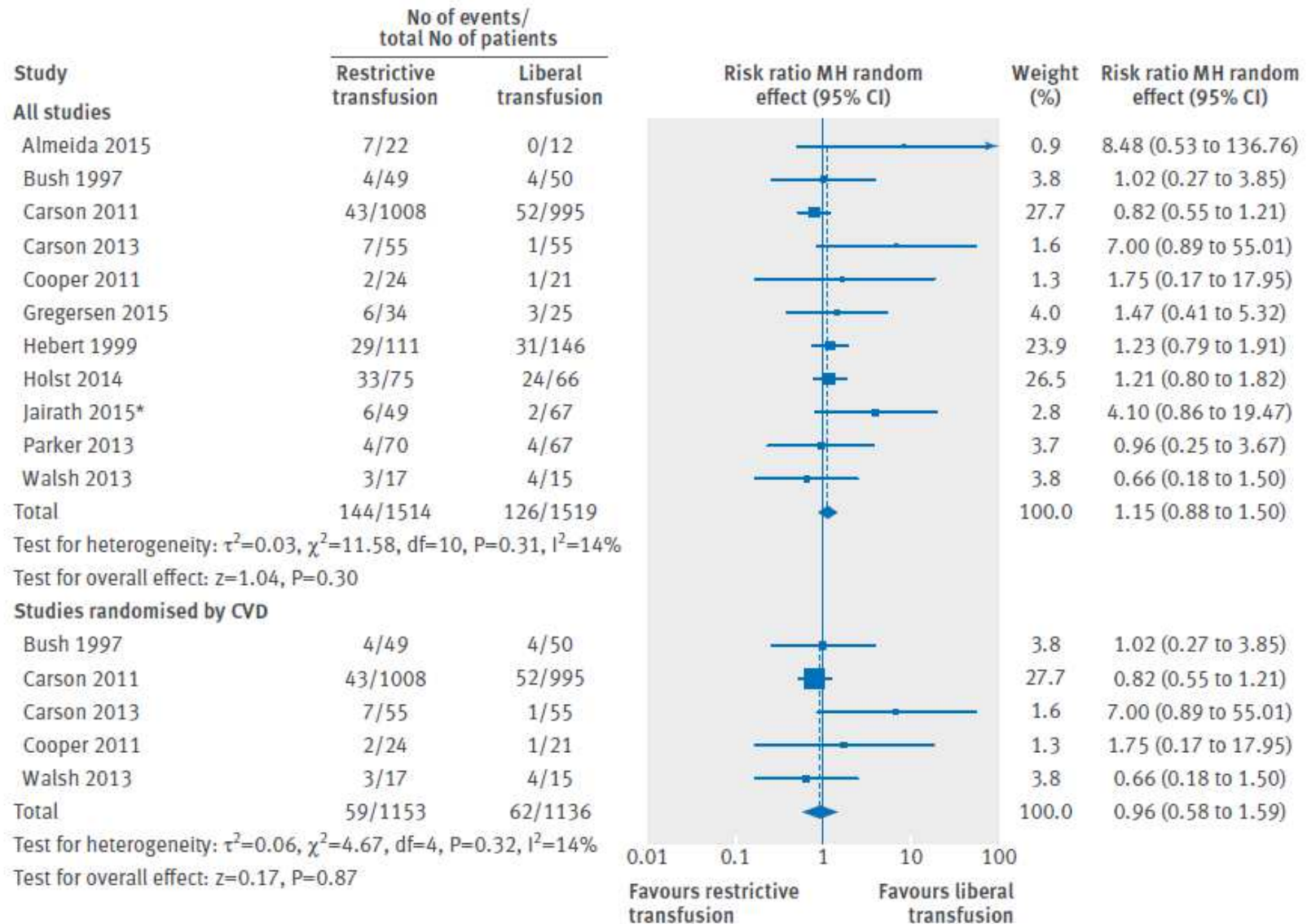
Carson et al. Cochrane Database 2016 Oct 12

# Relative risk 0.86 (low risk of bias) NNT 53 (to prevent 1 death)



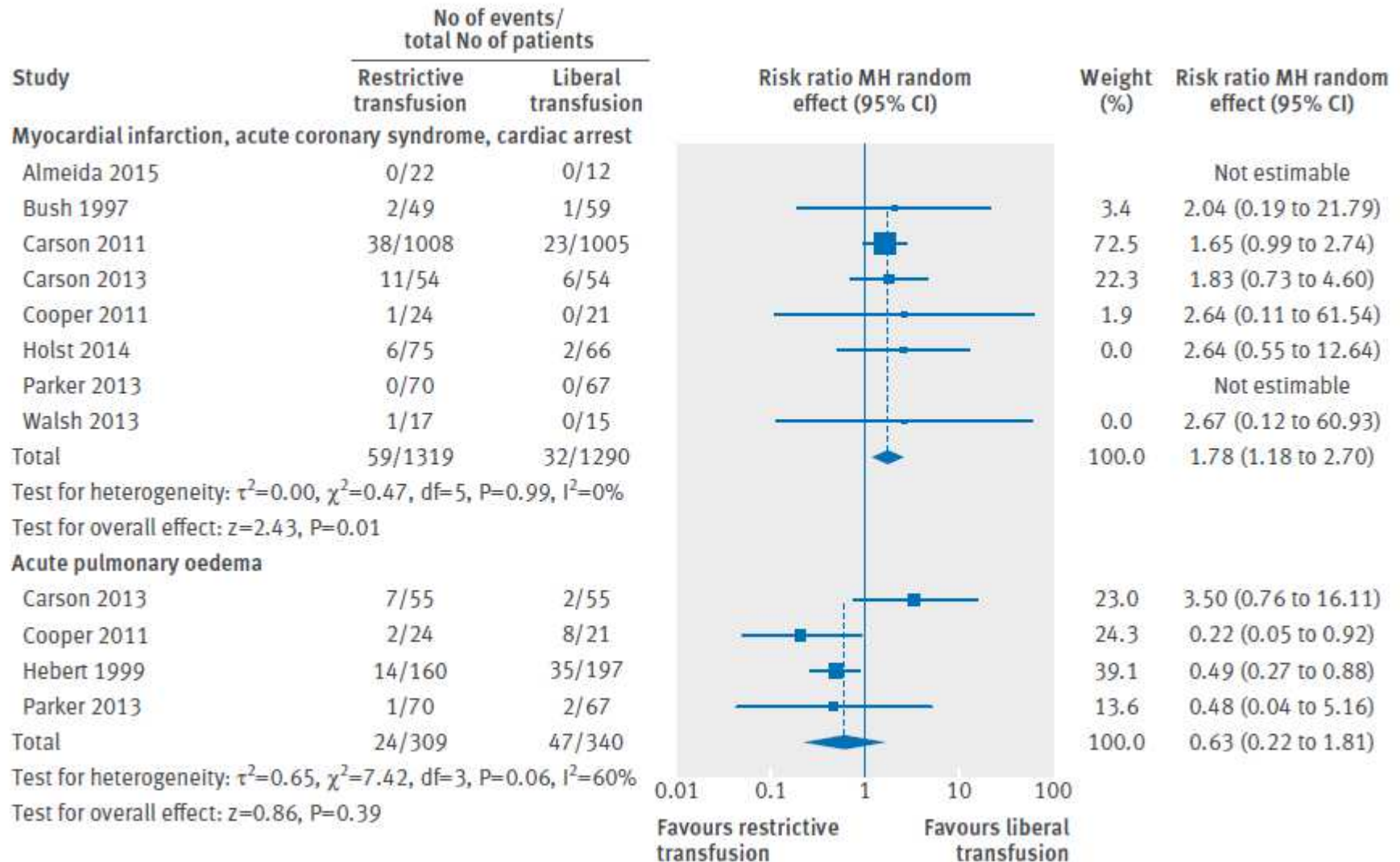
# Restrictive use may not be as beneficial to CVD patients?

**But not harmful!**





# More MI, less TACO



# Is liberal transfusion harmful?

- Probably YES
  - NNT to prevent 1 death = 53 patients
- Disclosure: We really don't have a clue about how to transfuse different populations with CVD (ACS, previous MI, PVD, stroke, etc)
  - MINT Study enrolling patients!
- If transfusion is really killing patients, we don't have a clue as to how
  - My money is riding on TACO

# TACO incidence (perioperative)

- The electronic algorithm identified 510 (12.5%) of 4,070 patients as having a high probability of TACO
- Dual review showed that 176 (34.5%) of these 510 patients had experienced TACO
- Rate of 4.3% (95% CI, 3.7 to 5.0%)
- Odds ratio of death for TACO cases compared with transfused controls of 3.8 (95% CI, 2.2 to 6.7) ( $P < 0.001$ )

# If my calculations are correct:

2000 patients die in Canada annually  
because of our failure to enforce  
restrictive transfusion guidelines

$$(0.5 \text{ M} * 0.22 \div 53)$$

(Patients transfused X percent inappropriate  $\div$  NNT to prevent 1 death)

5 Airbus 330 crashes per year in Canada

# Objectives

- 1) What is patient blood management?
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# About \$1200/patient

## Certainly: IT DOES NOT COST MORE

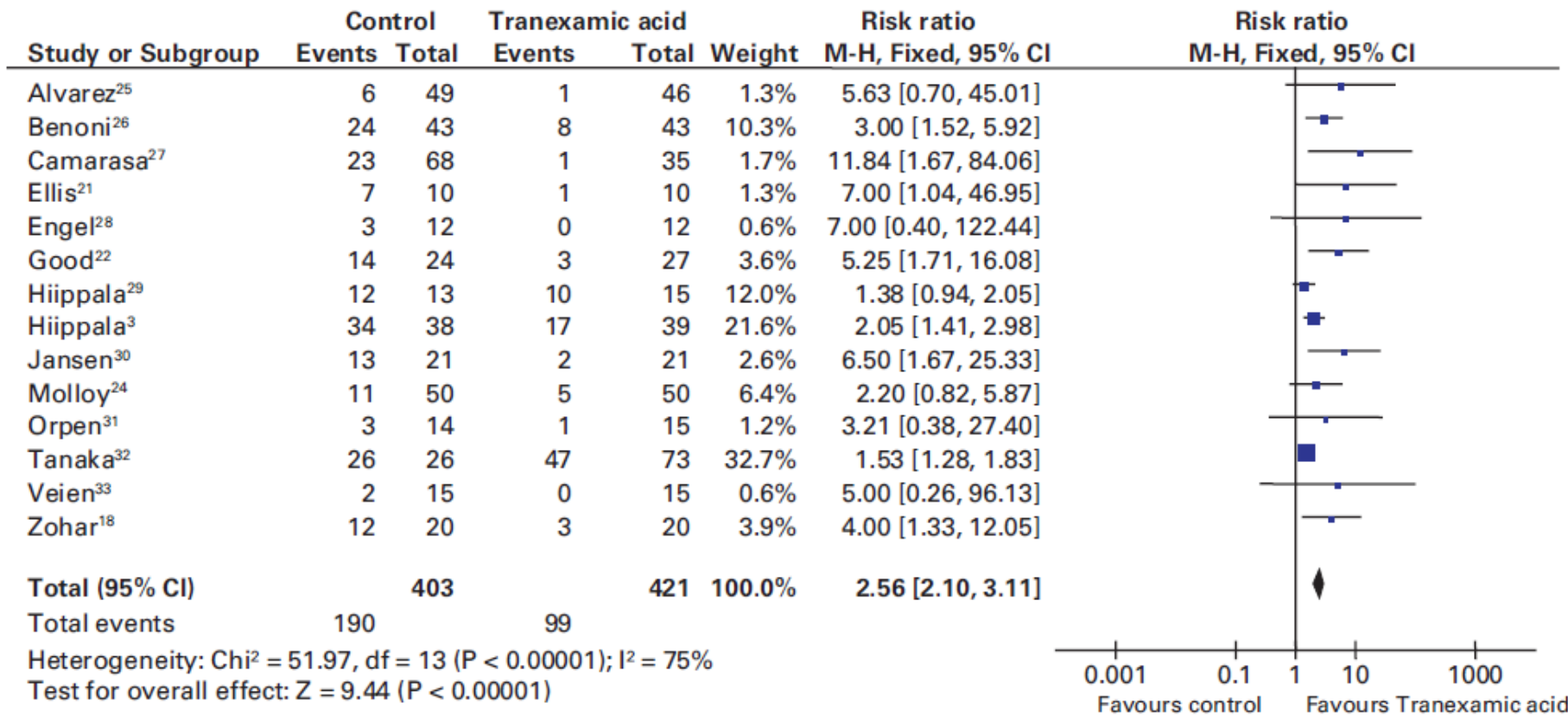
	PBM	Matched controls	P value
Total Charges*	14,046	15,634	0.09
Range	(8,685-27,687)	(8,646-33,657)	
Direct Costs	5,666	6,912	0.02
Range	(3,479-11,798)	(3,565-15,045)	

\* Includes indirect costs (hospital overhead)

# Tranexamic acid for knee replacement

NNT = 4

Put \$40 dollars in and get \$1000 out



*J Bone Joint Surg Br*  
 2011;93-B:1577-85.

# Without causing DVTs

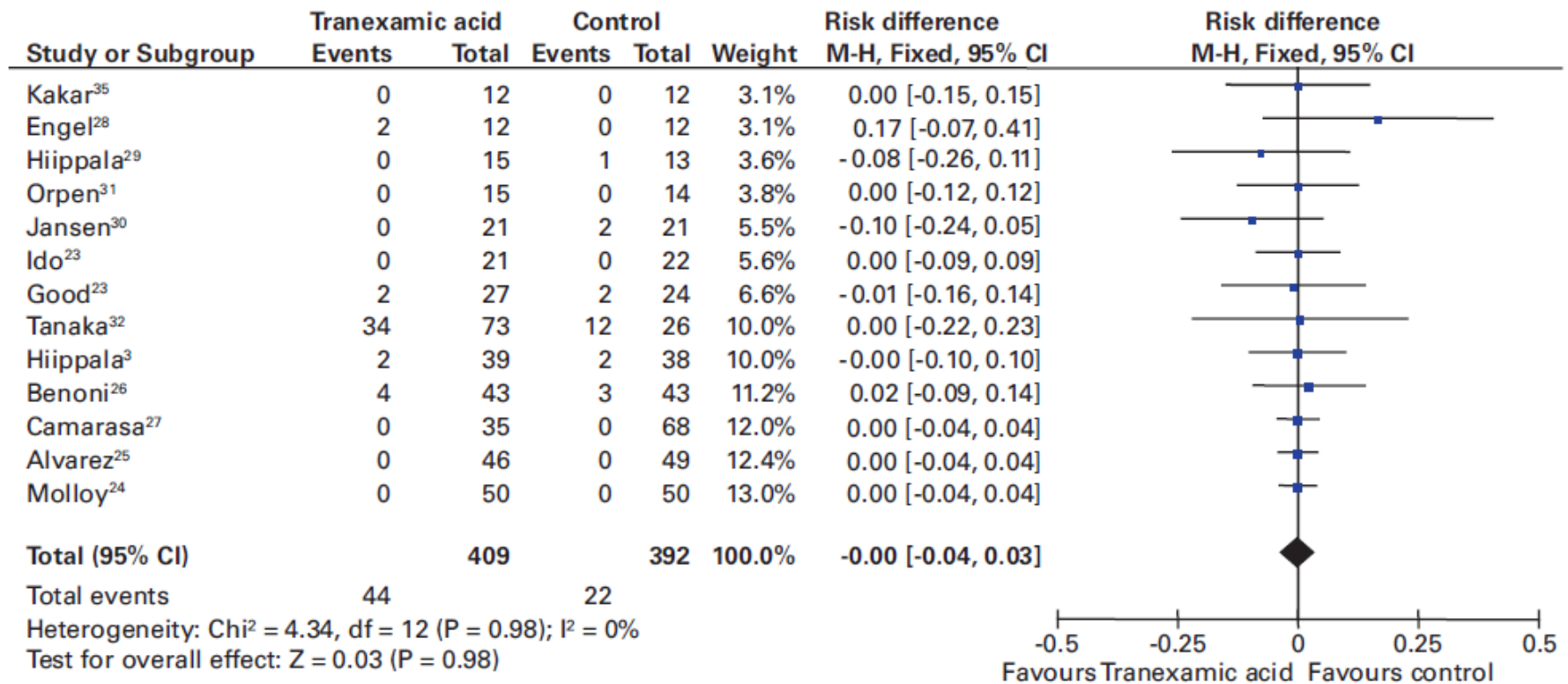


Fig. 6

Trials of tranexamic acid (TXA) vs placebo: forest plot of deep-vein thrombosis (DVT) rate. In 13 trials the use of TXA was not associated with an increased risk of DVT ( $p = 0.98$ ). There was no evidence of heterogeneity between trials ( $Q; p = 0.98; I^2 = 0\%$ ) (M-H, Mantel-Haenszel; CI, confidence interval).



# Objectives

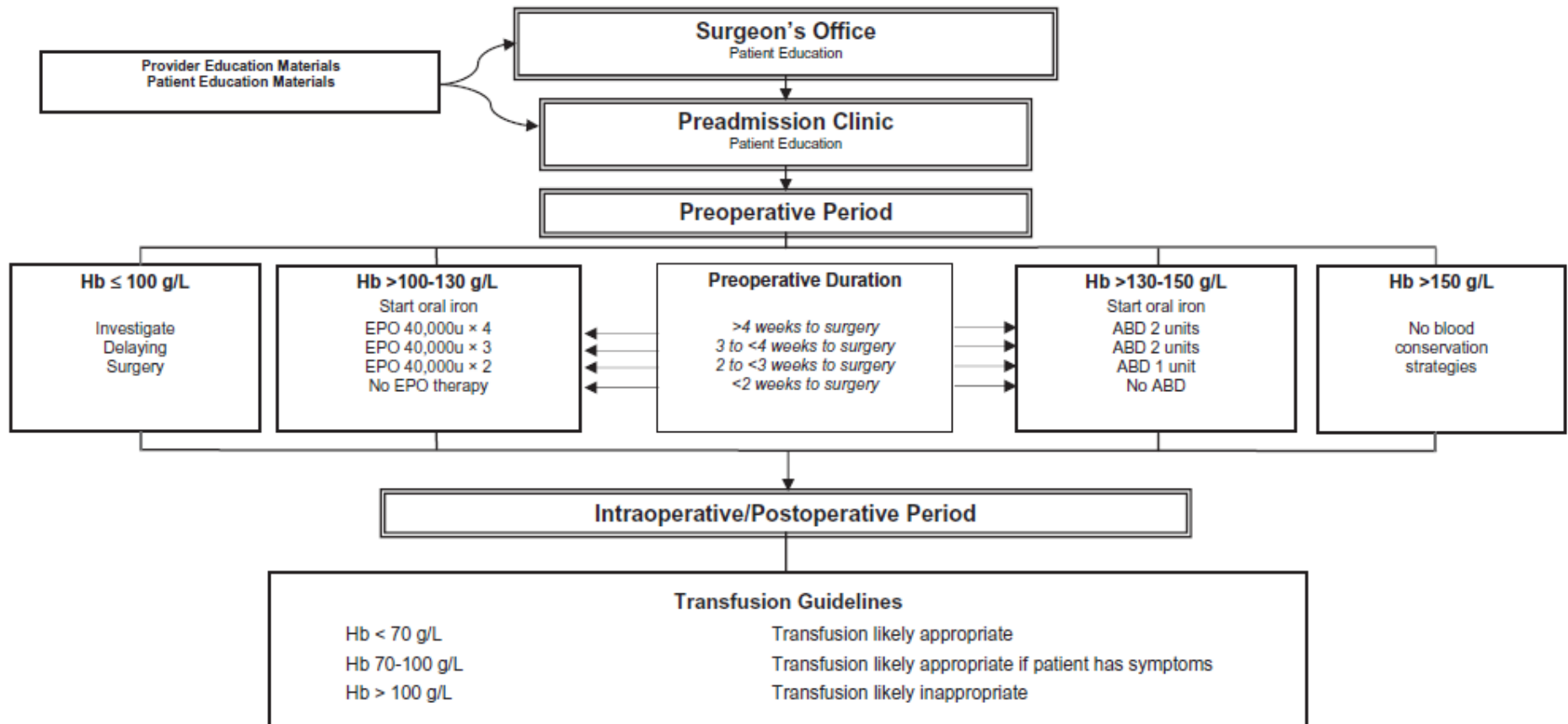
- 1) What is patient blood management?
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But does PBM improve outcomes  
(in addition to saving money)?

Maybe

# Ontario Cluster RCT

## Elective Primary Total Hip Joint Arthroplasty



# Ontario Cluster RCT

## No improvement in patient outcomes

(other than allogeneic transfusion decreased from 26% to 16% and reduced length of stay)

Outcome	PBM	Usual care
Length of stay	5.8 days	6.3 days
Major complications	1.1%	1.2%

# Englewood vs. Other hospitals

*Table 2. Outcomes and Patient Risk Factors<sup>a</sup>*

Variable	EH (n = 586)	OH-M (n = 586)	OH (n = 31,863)
Complications			
Very serious complication (%)	10.6	13.7	10.5
Serious complication (%)	0.5	5.0	4.0
Neither (%)	88.9	81.4	85.5
Blood products (%)	10.6	42.5	

(Ann Thorac Surg 2010;90:451–9)

# Cardiac surgery (before vs. after intraoperative PBM)

TABLE 2. Blood product and blood component use (n = 1032)

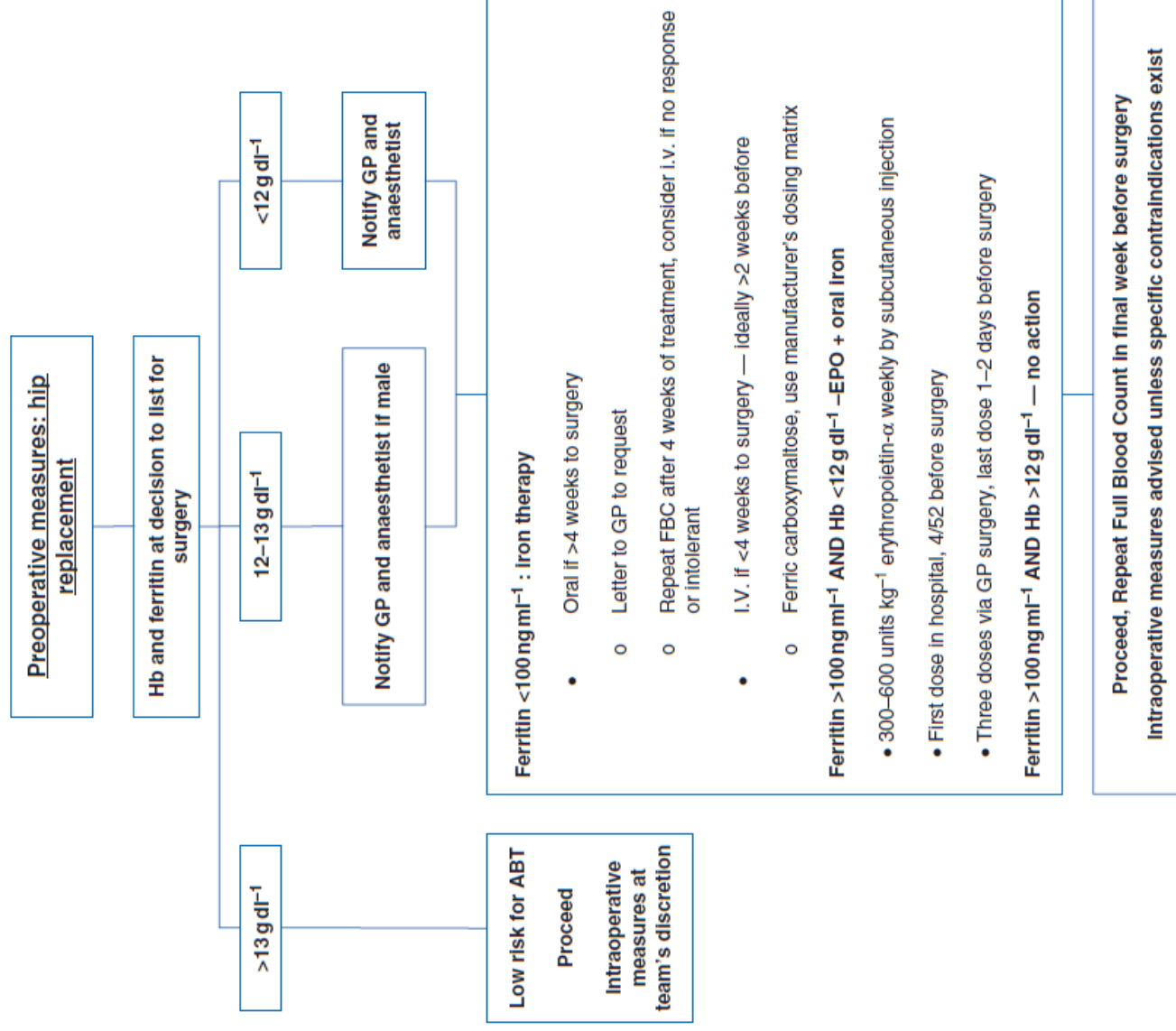
Units/patient	Group		P value*
	Group I (N = 481)	Group II (N = 551)	
Allogeneic PRBCs	2.1 ± 2.4	1.5 ± 2.2	<.001
Median (range)	1 (0–10)	0 (0–10)	
Platelets	0.4 ± 0.9	0.5 ± 0.9	.75
Median (range)	0 (0–5)	0 (0–5)	
FFP	1.5 ± 3.1	0.9 ± 2.3	.019
Median (range)	0 (0–14)	0 (0–18)	
Cryoprecipitate	1.8 ± 4.7	0.6 ± 2.9	<.001
Median (range)	0 (0–32)	0 (0–23)	
Total blood product use	5.8 ± 9.8	3.5 ± 6.9	<.001
Median (range)	2 (0–57)	1 (0–47)	
<b>Proportion receiving transfusion</b>			
Allogeneic PRBCs	60%	47%	<.001
Platelets	26%	27%	.80
FFP	24%	20%	.078
Cryoprecipitate	16%	5%	<.001
Any blood product use	63%	53%	.003

# No change in any outcomes

TABLE 3. Postoperative patient outcomes (n = 1032)

Variable	Group		Difference (95% CI)*	P value†
	Group I (N = 481)	Group II (N = 551)		
Hospital mortality (%)	4 (1%)	5 (1%)	<-1% (-1% to 1%)	1.00
Mortality 30 d (%)	4 (1%)	9 (2%)	<-1% (-2% to 1%)	.25
Postoperative LOS (d)	6 (0-48)	6 (2-70)	0 (-0.0001 to 0.0001)	.97
Postoperative bleeding with Reoperation (%)	20 (4%)	22 (4%)	<1% (-2% to 3%)	.89
Myocardial infarction (%)	1 (<1%)	0 (0%)		.47
Deep sternal wound infection (%)	1 (<1%)	3 (1%)		.63
Sepsis (%)	5 (1%)	4 (1%)	<1% (<-1% to 1%)	.74
Transient ischemic attack (%)	3 (1%)	4 (1%)	<-1% (-1% to 1%)	1.00
Prolonged ventilator support (% with >24 h)	44 (9%)	57 (10%)	-1% (-4% to 2%)	.52
Pulmonary embolism (%)	1 (<1%)	3 (1%)		.63
Renal failure (%)	15 (3%)	17 (3%)	<1% (-2% to 2%)	.98
Dialysis (%)	6 (2%)	4 (1%)	1% (<-1% to 2%)	.53
Cardiac arrest (%)	8 (2%)	5 (1%)	1% (-1% to 2%)	.28
Multiorgan system failure (%)	1 (<1%)	0 (0%)		.47
Atrial fibrillation (%)	112 (23%)	125 (23%)	1% (-4% to 6%)	.82
Predischarge hemoglobin (g/dL)	9.9 (8-15)	9.5 (7.5-13.3)	0.4 (0.2-0.5)	<.001

CI, Confidence interval; LOS, length of stay. \*Difference in rate and 95% CI are not shown for comparisons with small event numbers ( $\leq 1$  event). †Based on the chi-square test/ Fisher exact test for categoric variables and the Mann-Whitney *U* test for continuous variables.





# Plus intraoperative management

## Intraoperative measures: hip or knee replacement

- **Spinal anaesthesia over GA**
- **Anti-fibrinolytic drug treatment**
  - Tranexamic acid 1 g i.v. over 15 min
  - At induction for hips, before tourniquet release (if used) for knees
- **Cell salvage**
  - If intraoperative blood loss anticipated to exceed 1000 ml OR during unexpected significant haemorrhage
- **Induced hypotension**
  - Mean arterial pressure (MAP) 55 mmHg OR 30% less than usual MAP, whichever is higher

**Table 6** Before-and-after comparisons. Continuous data expressed as median (IQR). †*P*=0.02; \**P*<0.01; \*\**P*<0.001

	Before	After
Female:male ratio	412:305	155:126
TKR:THR ratio	356:361	123:158
ASA score	2 (2–2)	2 (2–3)
Age (yr)	72 (65–78)	74* (66–80)
Anaemia prevalence at decision for surgery	166/684	73/281
Nadir Hb in transfused patients (g dl <sup>-1</sup> )	7.8 (7.2–8.7)	7.6 (7.3–9.2)
Discharge Hb (g dl <sup>-1</sup> )	10.4 (9.5–11.4)	10.4 (9.4–11.0)
Hb loss: THR (g dl <sup>-1</sup> )	3.8 (2.9–4.9)	3.1** (1.9–4.6)
Hb loss: TKR (g dl <sup>-1</sup> )	3.1 (1.9–4.6)	2.6* (2.0–3.3)
Received ABT: THR	83/361	12**/158
Received ABT: TKR	24/356	0**/123
Length of stay (days): THR	6 (5–8)	5** (3–7)
Length of stay (days): TKR	6 (5–8)	4** (3–6)
Readmitted within 30 days	49/717	12/281
Readmitted within 90 days	97/717	23†/281

← 23% to 8%  
7% to 0%

← 1 day  
2 days

← 14% to 8%

# 17 cardiac programs in Virginia (14K patients)

Outcome	No PBM	PBM	p
Re-op bleed	2.1%	1.2%	<0.001
Pneumonia	2.7%	2.0%	0.01
Renal failure	3.8%	3.1%	0.03
Death	1.8%	1.0%	<0.001
Total cost	30K	26K	<0.001

NNT to prevent one death = 125 patients

(J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2013;145:796-804)

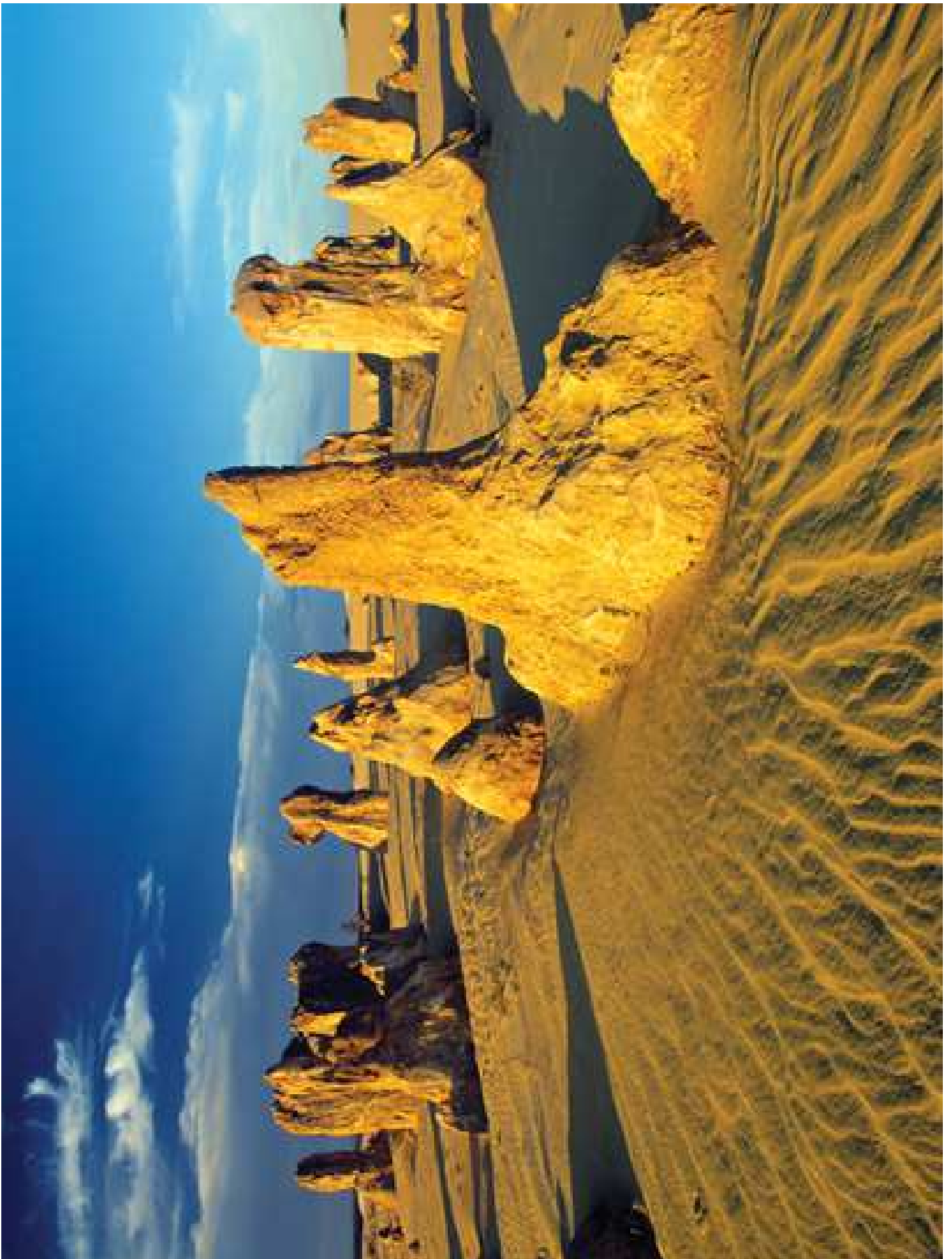
# Bloodless medicine vs. usual care

Parameter	All inpatients		p value
	Bloodless patients (n = 294)	Matched controls (n = 1157)	
In-hospital death	2 (0.7)	31 (2.7)	0.046
LOS (days)	4 (2-7)	4 (2-8)	0.50
LOS (days)	6.9 ± 14.4	7.4 ± 10.6	0.46
Morbid outcomes			
Infection	14 (4.8)	88 (7.6)	0.08
Thrombotic	12 (4.1)	61 (5.3)	0.39
Renal	2 (0.7)	9 (0.8)	0.86
Respiratory	3 (1.0)	5 (0.4)	0.21
Myocardial infarction	4 (1.4)	15 (1.3)	0.93
Any morbid outcome	40 (13.6)	166 (14.4)	0.74
Any morbid outcome or death	40 (13.6)	178 (15.4)	0.44

# ROTEM/PlateletWorks impact - Cardiac Surgery Step-wedge cluster RCT (7402 patients)

Outcome	Relative Risk (95% CI)	P-value
<b>Red cell transfusions</b>	<b>0.91 (0.84, 0.98)</b>	<b>0.01</b>
<b>Platelet transfusions</b>	<b>0.81 (0.72, 0.91)</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Plasma transfusions	1.04 (0.91, 1.18)	0.57
Cryoprecipitate or fibrinogen concentrate transfusions	1.19 (0.89, 1.59)	0.24
<b>Major bleeding</b>	<b>0.86 (0.75, 0.98)</b>	<b>0.02</b>
Major complications	1.01 (0.80, 1.26)	0.97

Circulation. 2016 Oct 18;134(16):1152-1162. Epub 2016 Sep 21.



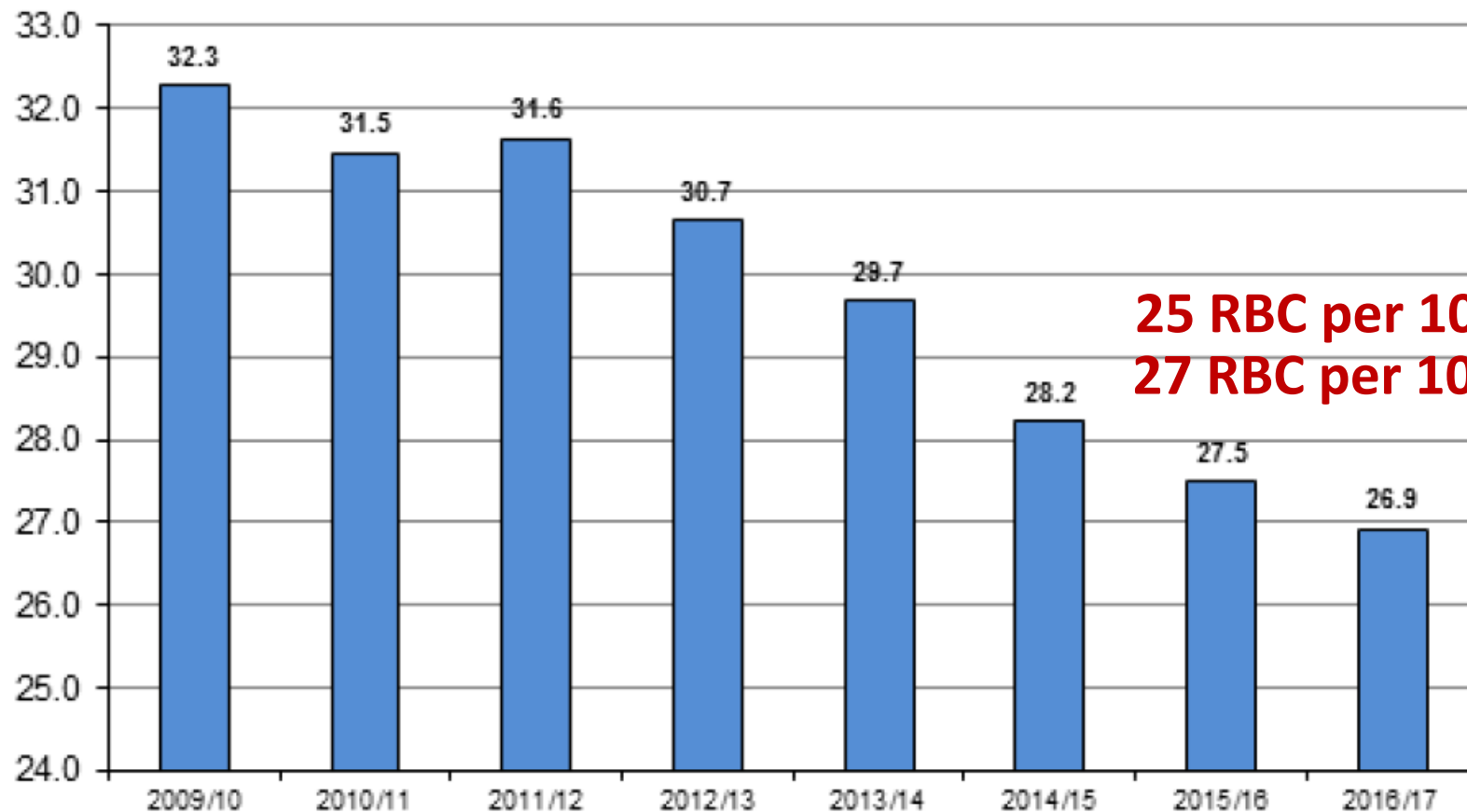
We have a long way to go  
to catch Western Australia

We are not going to catch them  
without patient blood management



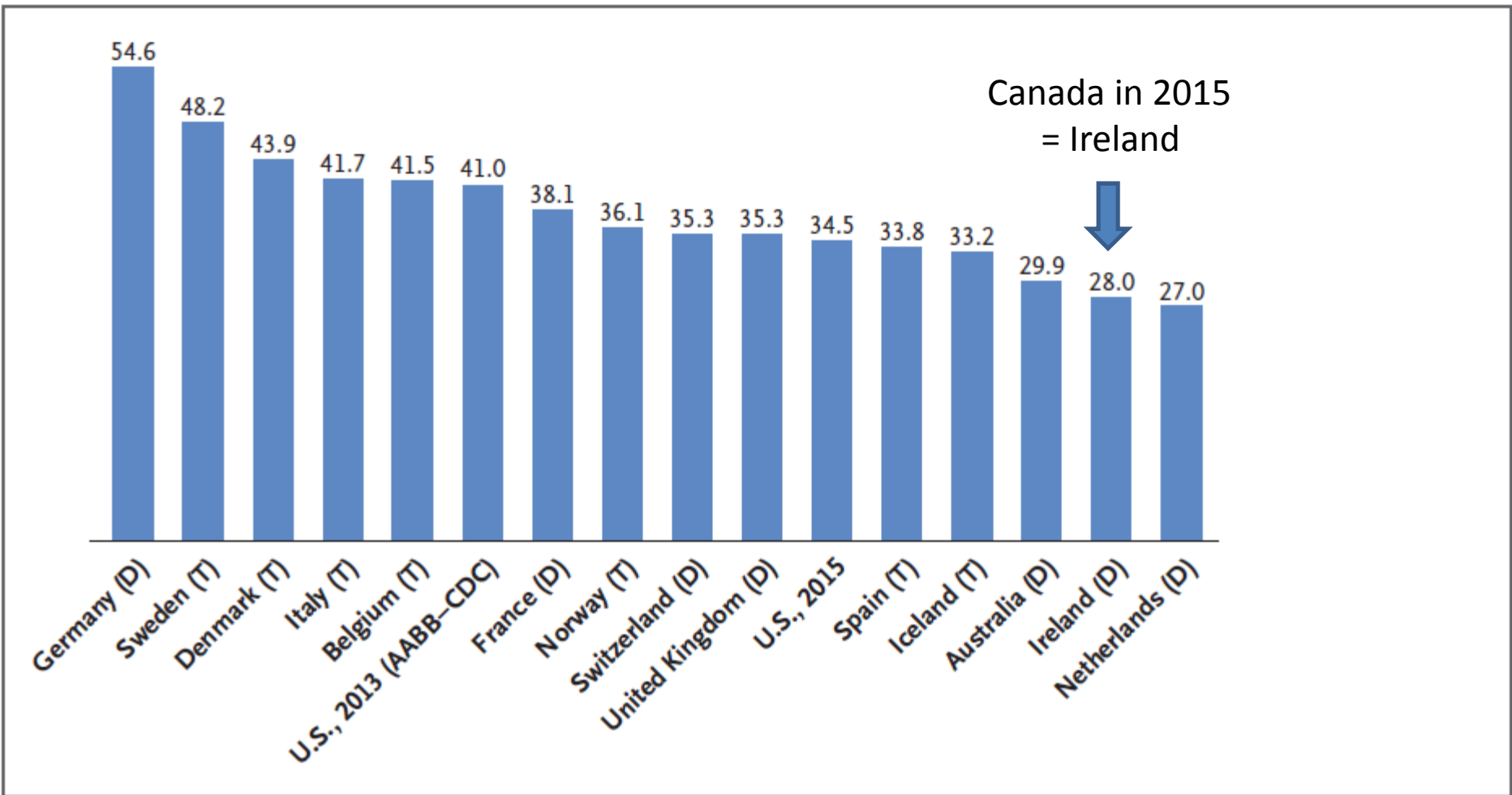
# How are we doing with RBC use?

RBC Units Issued per 1,000 Population by Fiscal Period



**25 RBC per 1000 Q**  
**27 RBC per 1000 C-Q**

# Comparison to the Rest of the World

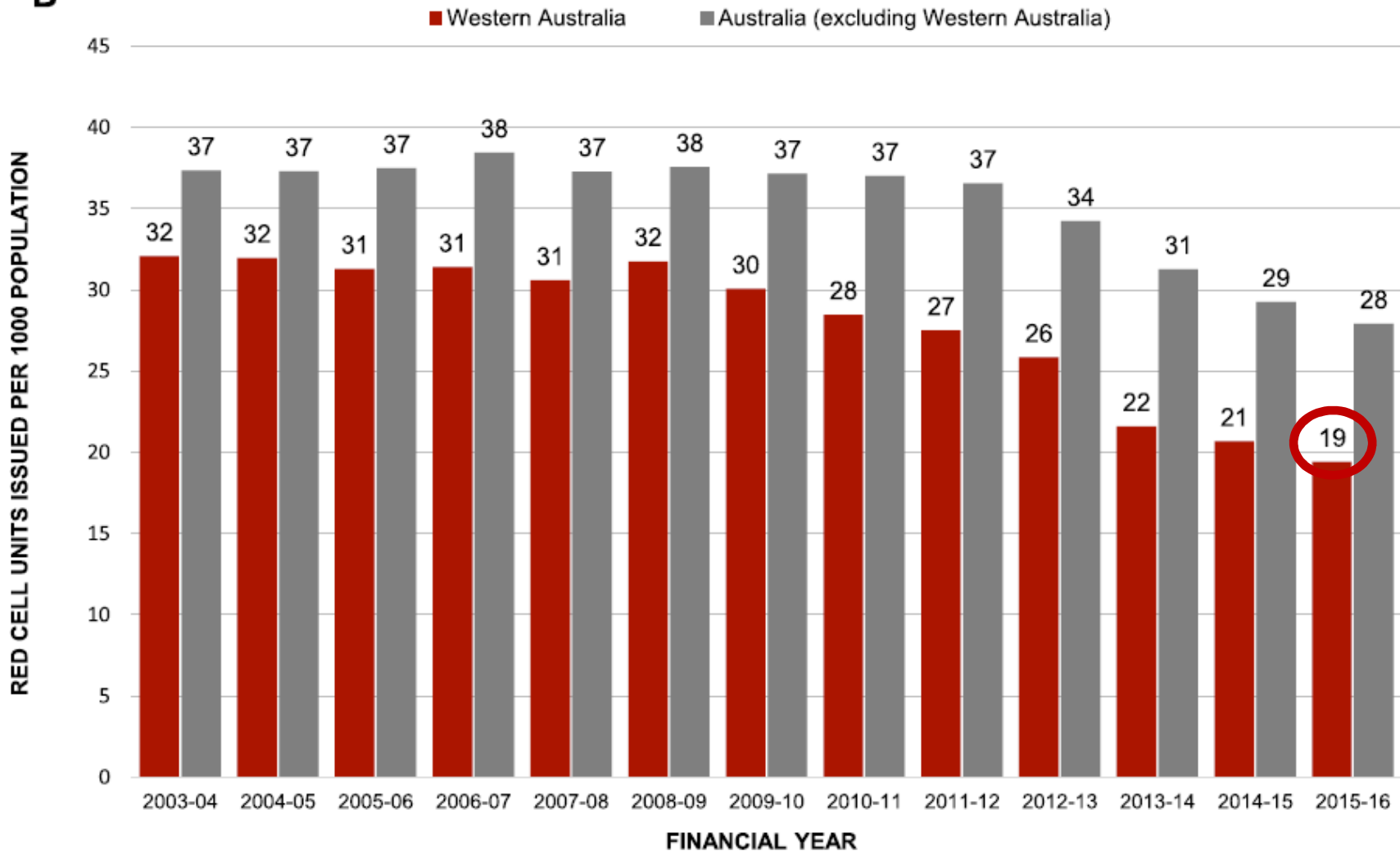


**Figure 3.** Transfusion Rates in the United States in 2013 and 2015, as Compared with Rates in Other Developed Countries.

# What patient blood management adds to restrictive transfusion thresholds

Leahy et al . Transfusion 2017 Jun;57(6):1347-1358.

**B**



Can we afford to be so lax with our use of Red Blood Cells (and plasma, etc.)?

**292,000 RBCs**

**338 million dollars per year**  
**(CBS and hospital costs = \$1158/unit)**

# Methods

- The program incorporated principles of the Kotter model for successful change management, including:
  - Motivation for change
  - Executive and clinical leadership
  - Multidisciplinary team engagement
  - Clinical strategies
  - Education
  - Communication (clinicians & patients)
  - Feedback on change
  - All changes in policies and procedures



Professor John Kotter  
Harvard Business School

## 1st Pillar

### Optimise red cell mass

- Detect anaemia
- Identify underlying disorder(s) causing anaemia
- Manage disorder(s)
- Refer for further evaluation if necessary
- Treat suboptimal iron stores/iron deficiency/anaemia of chronic disease/iron-restricted erythropoiesis
- Treat other haematonic deficiencies
- Note: Anaemia is a contraindication for elective surgery

PRFOP

- Time surgery with haematological optimisation

INTRAOP

- Optimise erythropoiesis
- Be aware of drug interactions that can increase anaemia

POSTOP

## 2nd Pillar

### Minimise blood loss & bleeding

- Identify and manage bleeding risk
- Minimise iatrogenic blood loss
- Procedure planning and rehearsal
- Meticulous haemostasis and surgical techniques
- Blood-sparing surgical devices
- Anaesthetic blood conserving strategies
- Autologous blood options
- Maintain normothermia
- Pharmacological/haemostatic agents

- Vigilant monitoring and management of post-operative bleeding
- Avoid secondary haemorrhage
- Rapid warming / maintain normothermia (unless hypothermia specifically indicated)
- Autologous blood salvage
- Minimise iatrogenic blood loss
- Haemostasis/anticoagulation management
- Prophylaxis of upper GI haemorrhage
- Avoid/treat infections promptly
- Be aware of adverse effects of medication

## 3rd Pillar

### Harness & optimise physiological reserve of anaemia

- Assess/optimize patient's physiological reserve and risk factors
- Compare estimated blood loss with patient-specific tolerable blood loss
- Formulate patient-specific management plan using appropriate blood conservation modalities to minimise blood loss, optimise red cell mass and manage anaemia

- Optimise cardiac output
- Optimise ventilation and oxygenation

- Optimise anaemia reserve
- Maximise oxygen delivery
- Minimise oxygen consumption
- Avoid/treat infections promptly
- Restrictive transfusion thresholds

Perioperative multidisciplinary multimodal patient-specific team approach

# Program Foundations

- Pillar 1. Optimize RBC mass
  - Systems were re-engineered to facilitate timely preintervention patient assessment and optimization of hemoglobin and iron stores, and the use of intravenous iron and other hematinics for postoperative and in-hospital anemia as well as anemia and iron deficiency in pregnancy and primary care

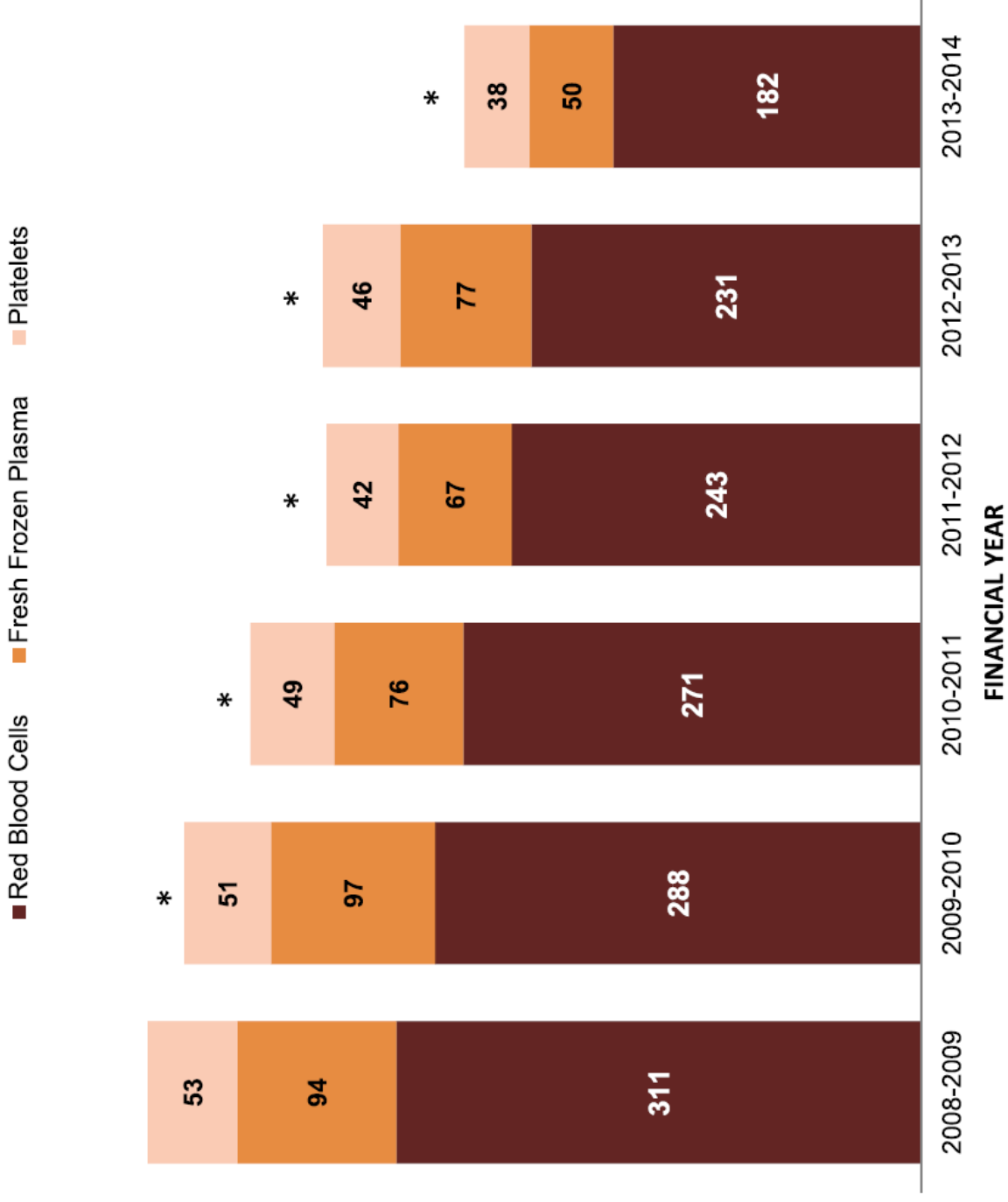
# Program Foundations

- Pillar 2. Minimize blood loss
  - Educational and clinical initiatives were undertaken to reduce blood loss, including preintervention bleeding risk assessment and management, surgical hemostasis workshops and symposia, use of blood-preserving anesthetic techniques, hemostatic agents, autologous blood salvage, viscoelastic coagulation testing with targeted therapy in critical bleeding and coagulopathy, and minimize laboratory blood sampling volumes



# Program Foundations

- Pillar 3. Optimize the patient-specific tolerance of anemia
  - No specific transfusion threshold values were established for the program. Transfusion decisions were encouraged to take into account patient-specific clinical and physiological factors and accept evidence-based, more restrictive but individualized thresholds
  - Single unit transfusions



\* *p*-value < 0.05, indicating the mean units transfused per 1000 discharges decreased significantly when compared to the reference year (2008-2009).

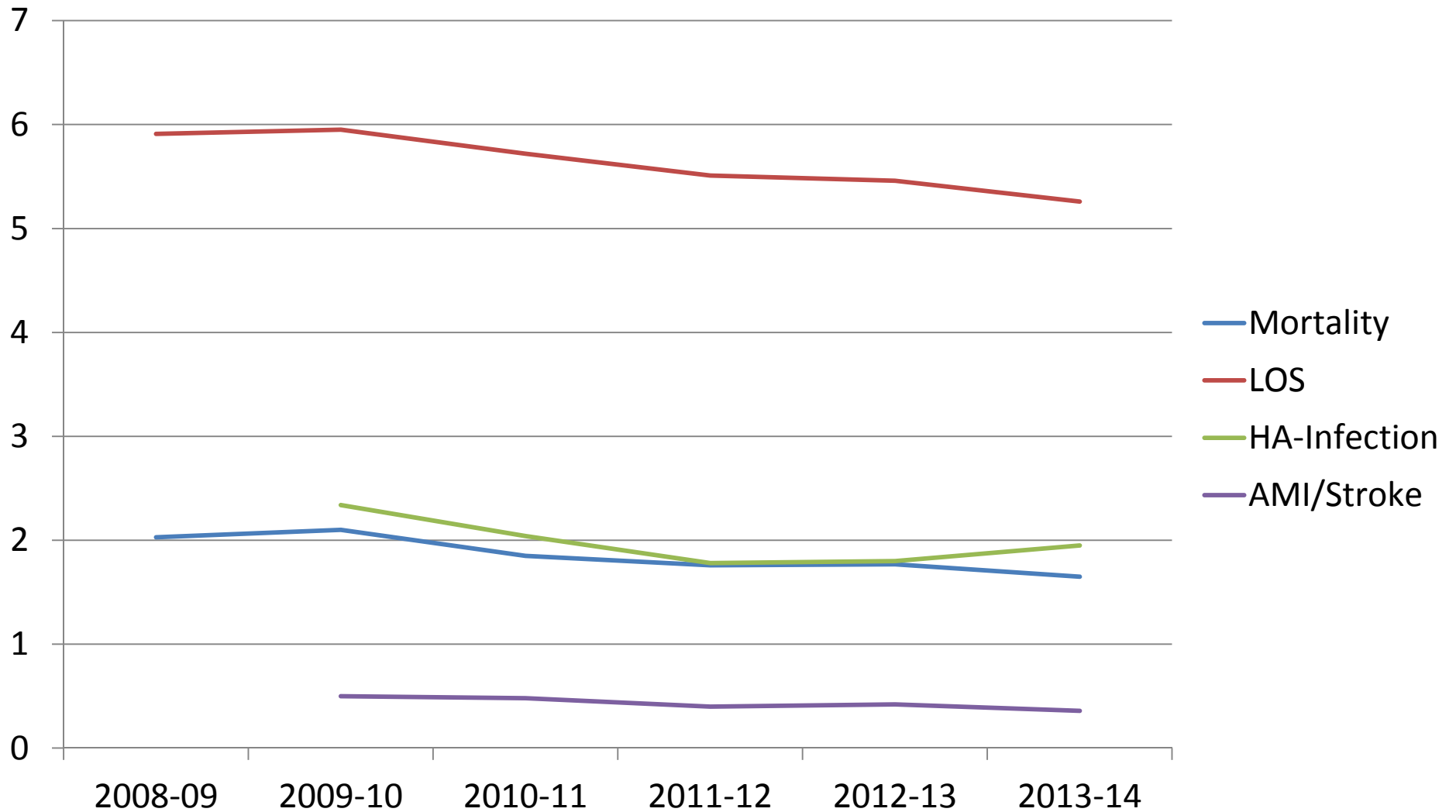
**Fig. 3. Mean units of blood transfused per 1000 discharges.**

# Results

- Pre-transfusion hemoglobin decreased from 79 to 73 g/L ( $p < 0.001$ )
- The proportion of single unit increase from 33 to 64% ( $p < 0.001$ )
- The proportion of elective surgery patients admitted with anemia decreased from 21 to 14% ( $p = 0.001$ )

# Outcomes

Adjusted 28% deaths, 15% LOS, 31% AMI/stroke



# Objectives

- 1) What is patient blood management?
- 2) Is blood really that bad for you?
- 3) Does PBM save money?
- 4) Does PBM improve outcomes?
- 5) Is this an expectation of your hospital?**

Is it an expectation that your  
hospital implements a  
comprehensive PBM program?

YES

# The Reasons

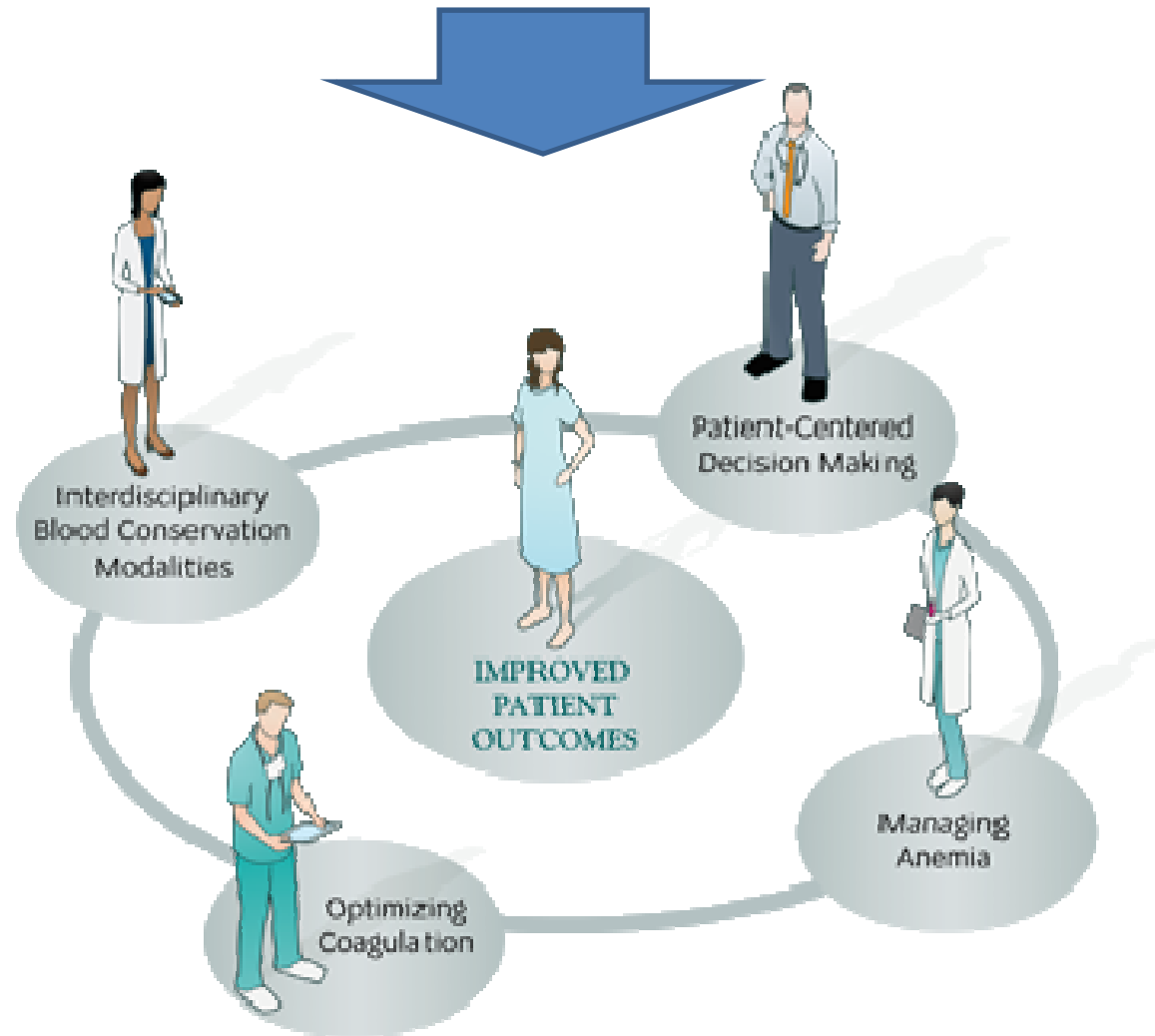
- People will die if you don't implement a multifaceted blood conservation program
- Patients will have complications that are preventable if you don't make sure they get better care
- Health care spending on blood and complications from preventable transfusions can be re-deployed to other areas of health care
- Blood donors can cut back on their frequency of donation and replete their iron stores (maybe we can also be more picky about who can donate)

# Message

- On the PBM front we have a long way to go:
  - Intravenous iron and ESAs for surgery
  - Anemia prevention for HMB and pregnancy
  - Access to therapies for HMB
  - Cell salvage
  - Tranexamic acid
  - Pre-op/delivery assessment for bleeding risk
  - POCT testing for bleeding patients
  - Post-op iv iron
  - Minimize lab testing
  - Low vacuum sample tubes



# We are all turning a blind eye to patient blood management = hard



# Pressure is mounting

Accreditation Certification Standards Measurement Topics About

Home > Certification > Patient Blood Management Certification

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## Patient Blood Management Certification

Patient Blood Management Home



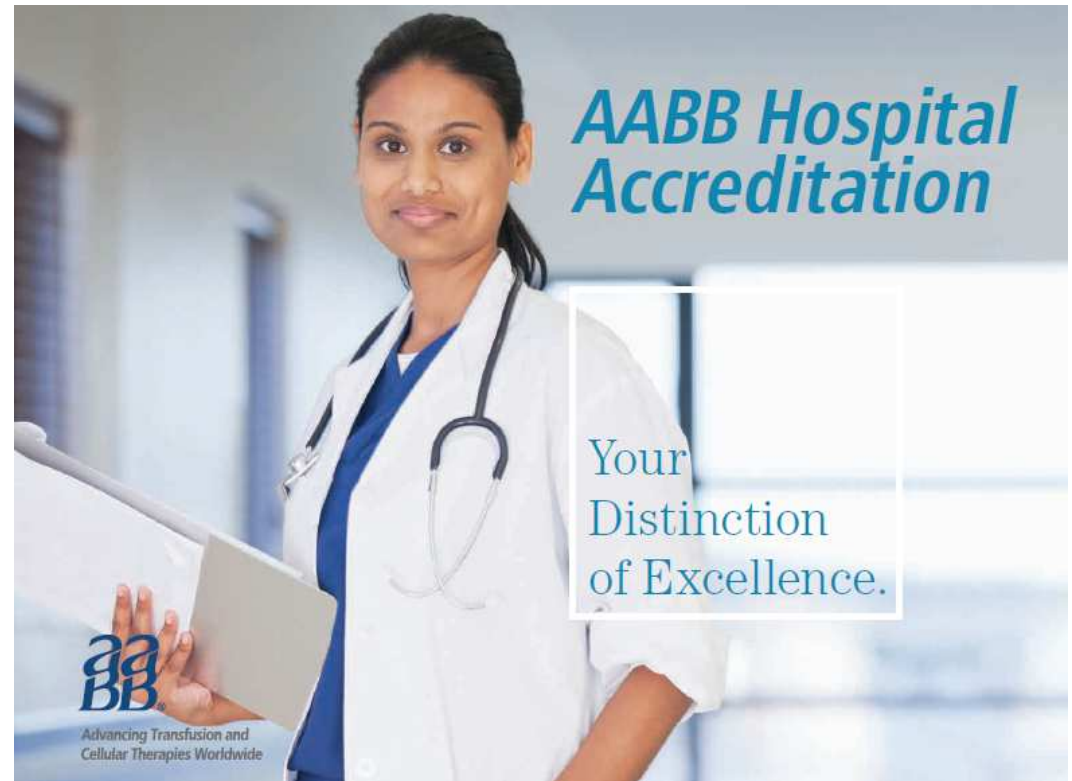
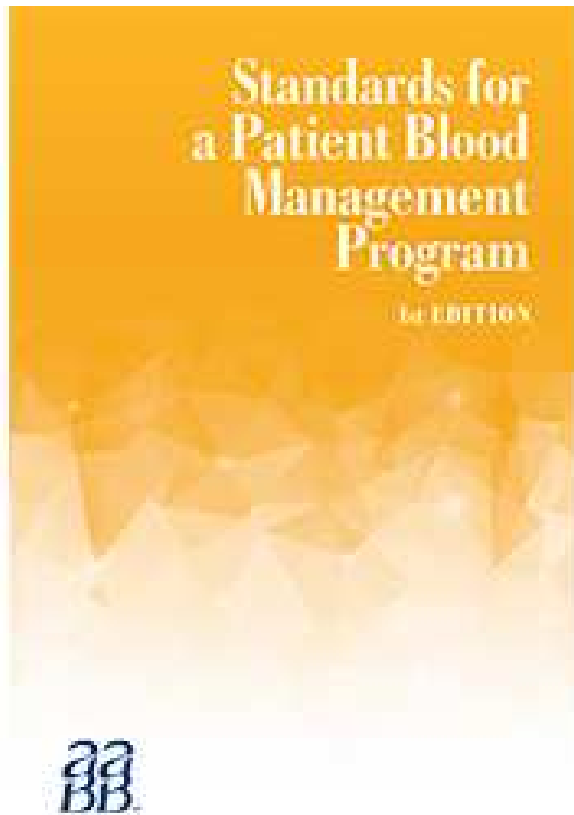
### *Patient Blood Management Certification*

#### About Patient Blood Management Certification

Patient Blood Management is a voluntary certification that provides a third party evaluation of patient blood management programs. The certification is an evidence-based approach to optimizing care of patients who might need transfusion. It is based on the AABB Standards for a Patient Blood Management Program and can help hospitals and critical access hospitals realize the maximum benefits of establishing a comprehensive patient blood management program.

- [Brochure](#)
- [FAQs](#)

# AABB Standards & Accreditation for Patient Blood Management



# Get going

- Go back and do a self-assessment of your current starting point
- Determine where you are falling short on multifaceted PBM
- Develop an implementation strategy for your next intervention/QI project
- Test and re-measure in repeated quality cycles

Thank you for your attention

Questions (and criticisms) welcome