



# *Managing Patients with Antibodies*

*Melanie Tokessy MLT3*



# Objectives

- Determine the risks associated with transfusing patients who have developed antibodies
- Assess the complications associated with a patient who has developed antibodies in the chronically transfused patient and consider the best approach to managing

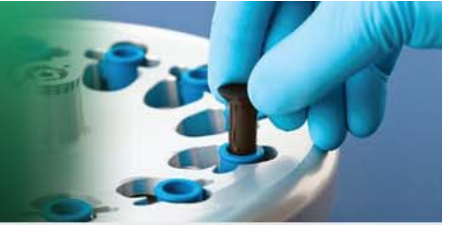
# Disclosure

Faculty: Melanie Tokessy, Eastern Ontario  
Laboratory Association (EORLA)

Relationship with commercial interests: None

Potentials for conflict of interests: None

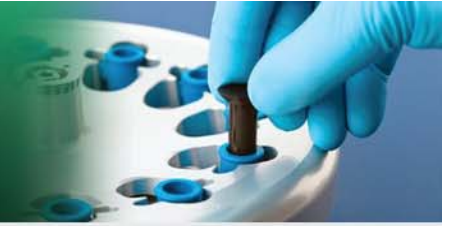
# Risks of Transfusion – Non Infectious



- Minor Allergic 1 in 100
- TACO 1 in 100
- Febrile 1 in 300
- Delayed Hemolytic 1 in 7,000
- TRALI 1 in 12,000
- ABO-incompatible 1 in 40,000
- Serious Allergic 1 in 40,000



# TM Role to Reduce Risks of Transfusion – Non Infectious

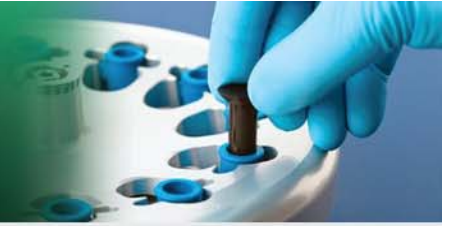


## Proper Pretransfusion Testing:

- ABORh
  - ABO most important test
  - Rh second
- Antibody Screen/Identification
  - Incubation time, additives
  - Training/experience/expertise
- Blood selection
- Automation/Barcoding



# Patients with Alloantibodies



## **Varies widely due to:**

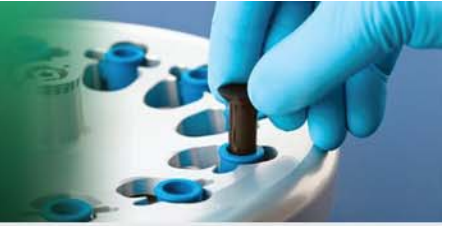
- Disease of patient
- History of transfusion/pregnancy
- Antigen frequencies of patients vs donors

## **Estimation:**

- 1-2% general population
- 5% multi-transfused
- 20% in transfusion dependent diseases



# Patients with Alloantibodies



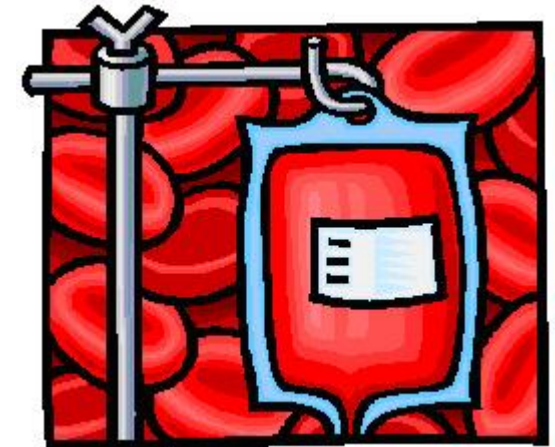
- Results in delay
  - Antibody workup
  - Finding Ag neg RBC
- HDFNB
  - Anemia
  - Increase bilirubin
- Hemolytic transfusion reactions
  - Decreased cell survival
  - By-products of hemolysis



# Patient: DL

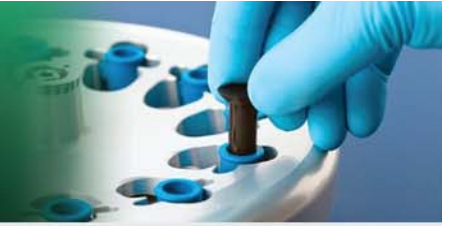


- 68y, male
- Liver Failure
- Specimen submitted for 2 PRBC
- History: 2 PRBC transfused 2 weeks ago
  - A positive
  - ABSC: negative
- Hgb today: 80 g/l





# Patient: DL

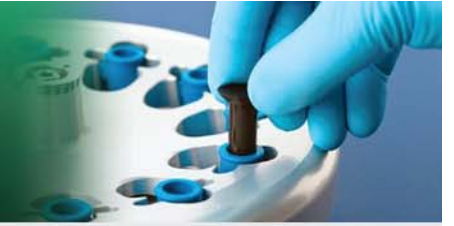


Patient	Anti-A	Anti-B	Anti-D	A <sub>1</sub> Cells	B Cells	Inter.
DL	4+	0	4+	0	3+	A pos

	SI	SII	SIII	Inter.
DL	2+	1+	0	Positive

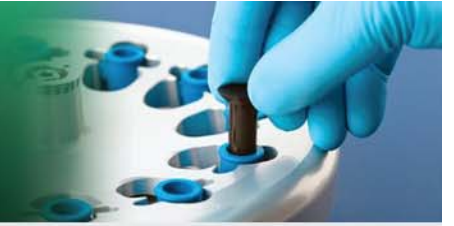
- Patient booked today in MDU
- Physician is keen to transfuse because the patient has been feeling “sluggish” and tired since last transfusion

# Patient: DL



Cell	D	C	c	E	e	K	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	M	N	S	s	SP
1	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	2+
2	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	1+
3	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0
4	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	2+
5	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0
6	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0
7	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0
8	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	2+
9	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	1+
10	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	1+
11	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	2+
12	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0
AC																1+

# Patient: DL



Cell	D	C	c	E	e	K	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	M	N	S	s	SP
1	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	2+
2	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	1+
3	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0
4	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	2+
5	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0
6	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0
7	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0
8	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	2+
9	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	1+
10	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	1+
11	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	2+
12	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0
AC																1+

# Patient: DL

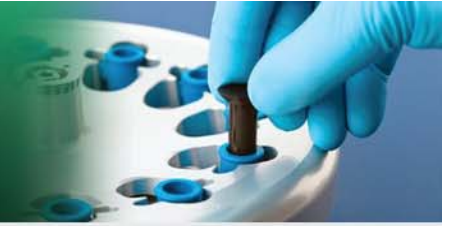


## Next steps to testing:

- Further exclusions
  - selected cells
- Crossmatch Jka- units
  - 23% compatibility
  - Full IAT crossmatch
- Direct Antiglobulin Test
- Eluate



# Patient: DL

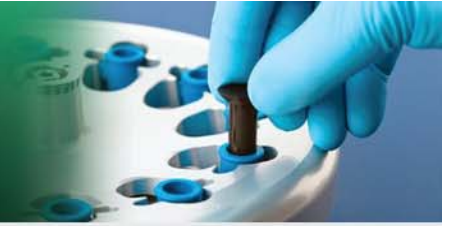


Cell	D	C	c	E	e	K	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	M	N	S	s	Peg IAT
2a	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0 <sup>√</sup>
4a	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0 <sup>√</sup>
9a	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0 <sup>√</sup>
10a	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	2+

	Poly	Poly 5'	6% alb	-IgG	-C <sub>3</sub>	-C <sub>3</sub> 5'
DL	2+	1+	0	2+	1+	1+

Cell	D	C	c	E	e	K	k	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	M	N	S	s	Elu	LW
1	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	2+	0 <sup>√</sup>
2	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0 <sup>√</sup>	0 <sup>√</sup>
3	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	0 <sup>√</sup>	0 <sup>√</sup>
4	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	2+	0 <sup>√</sup>

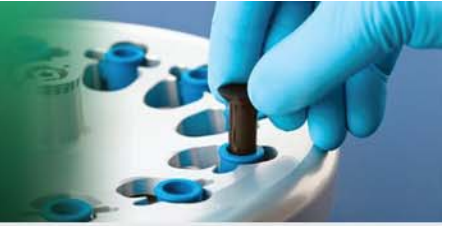
# Patient: DL



- Antigen type pretransfusion specimen
- Repeat pretransfusion antibody screen
- Jka type transfused segments if available



# Patient: DL Pretransfusion



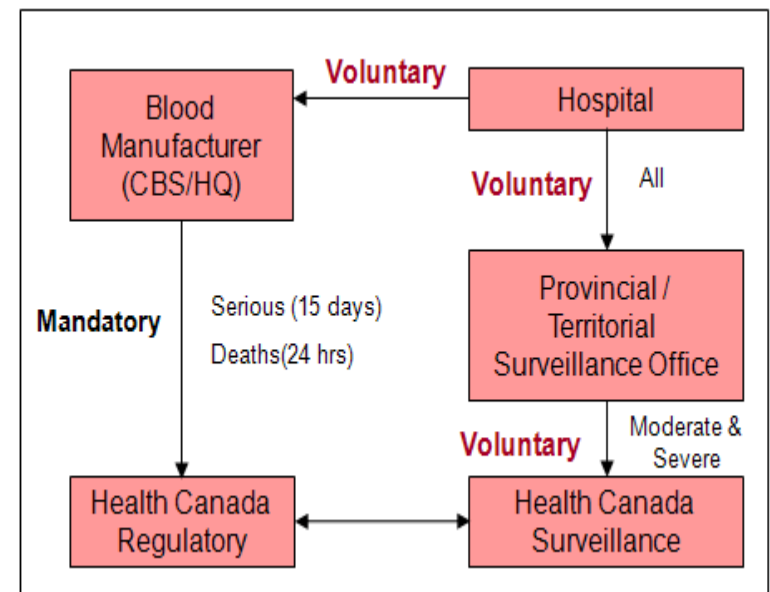
Cell	Anti-Jk <sup>a</sup> Imm25966
DL Pretransfusion	0
C055515485810	3+
C055515492321	0
Jk(a+b+) Positive	3+
Jk(a-b+) Negative	0

	SI	SII	SIII
DL Solid Phase	0	0	0
DL PegIAT	0 <sup>v</sup>	0 <sup>v</sup>	0 <sup>v</sup>

# Patient: DL Final Steps



- Keep 2 units on hold when patient in-house
- Antibody card
  - Mailed to patient with letter
- Report TTISS
  - Delayed serological transfusion reaction





# Managing Patients with Antibodies



- Most are straight forward and routine
  - But still must be done well and timely
- Sometimes complex and difficult
  - Challenging
  - Rewarding
  - Time consuming: delays
  - Know when to refer out: CBS

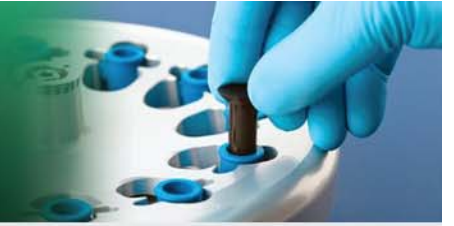


# Chronically Transfusion Patients

- Oncology
- Heme-Onc
  - Leukemia
  - Auto immune
- Thalassemia
- Sickle Cell Anemia



# Transfusion Support of Sickle Cell Patients



- Leukoreduced
  - Universal in Canada
- “Fresh” units
  - <10 days old
  - Last longer?
- Sickle trait negative
  - Trait RBCs function normally
  - May cause problems with post measurement of HbS



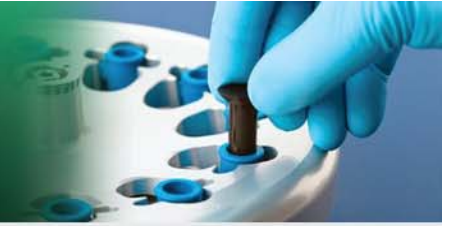
# Transfusion Support of Sickle Cell Patients



- High rate of alloimmunization
  - 19-37% patients
- Racial disparity between donor base and patient population
  - Differences in antigens expressed on RBC
- Higher rate of transfusion
- Most common allo antibodies: Rh (-C, -E) and Kell (-K)



# Antigen Matching to Reduce Alloimmunization



- Phenotype all identified sickle cell patients
- C, c, E, e, K, k, Fya, Fyb, Jka, Jkb, S, s
- Genotype when possible
  - CBS
  - Large centres
- Prophylactically crossmatch to match for Rh and Kell



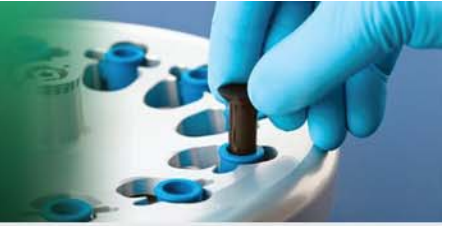
# Antigen Matching to Reduce Alloimmunization



- Full phenotype match for sickle cell patients with one or more allo antibody:
  - Neg for antigen(s) identified
  - C, c, E, e, K, e, Fya, Fyb, Jk Jkb, S, s
  - Challenging to meet
  - Ok to “drop” some antigens
  - GATA box mutation? Drop Fyb neg requirement



# O Negative (mis)Use



- Rh positive sickle cell patients
  - Commonly R<sub>0</sub>r (ccDee)
  - Crossmatch C-E-
- Rh positive donors
  - 70% C+/30% E+
- Easy to crossmatch Rh neg
  - Most Rh neg C- E-

**URGENT  
O NEG BLOOD  
SHORTAGE**

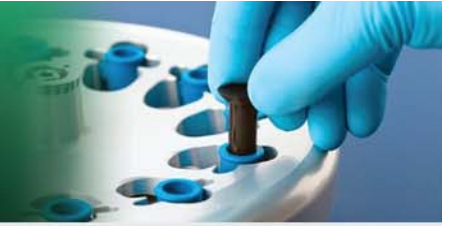
# O Negative Utilization



- High ranking for TOH-General
  - No O negative wastage/discard
- Review of O negative to non-O negative recipients:
- 2013: 49% O neg to non-O neg
  - Sickle Cell: 44% (444 units)
  - Antibodies: 21% (211 units)



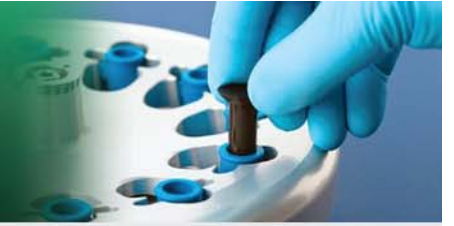
# O Negative Utilization



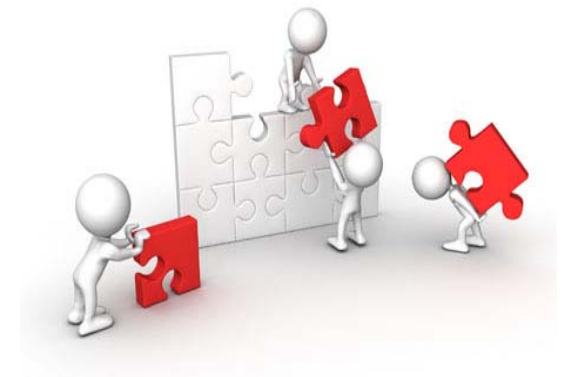
- Stricter O negative crossmatching strategies
  - Perform in house phenotyping for common antigen typing
  - Discussion with CBS: increase typing of non-O negative donors
- 2014: 24% **vs 44%**
  - Sickle Cells: 47% (289 units **vs 444**)
  - Antibodies: 21% (130 units **vs 211**)



# Managing Patient with Special Requirements



- Communication
  - Clinical
  - CBS
  - TM staff
- Assess your patient population
  - Hematological vs trauma
  - Sickle cell
- Don't always rely on O negative donor units for special typing



**Thank you!**

