# Auto Immune Hemolytic Anemia: out of order



Name: Melanie Tokessy ORBCON Spring Symposium April 14, 2021

#### Disclosures

I have no relevant conflicts of interest



### **Objectives**

- Learn how AIHA samples are processed in the lab
- Discuss crossmatching procedures for AIHA patients





#### AIHA Case

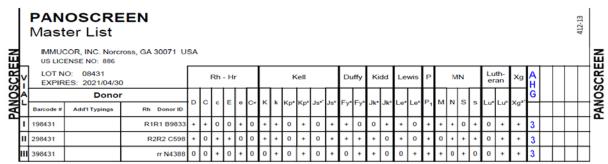
- · 51M, previously healthy
- Presented with weakness and dark orange urine, rigors and chills, exertional dyxpnea

- Hb 64-> 54 WBC 9.8 PLT 202
- Retics 4.1
- Haptoglobin < 0.1
- LDH 964
- Bili 111/8
- DAT positive IgG, negative C3



#### Worse case scenario:

- T&S arrives Saturday @02:00
- 2 RBC ordered
- ABORh: A positive
- ABSC: All cells positive 3+



Date tested:\_
Set up by:\_\_
Read by:

\* Indicates those antigens whose presence or absence may have been determined using only a single example of a specific antibody.

An antigen designated with a 'w' represents a weakened expression of the antigen that may or may not react with all examples of the corresponding antibody.

#### 51M AIHA

#### DIFFERENTIAL DIRECT ANTIGLOBULIN TEST:

POLY	POLY 5	6% ALB	-IgG	-C <b>3</b>	-C3 5m	Tech

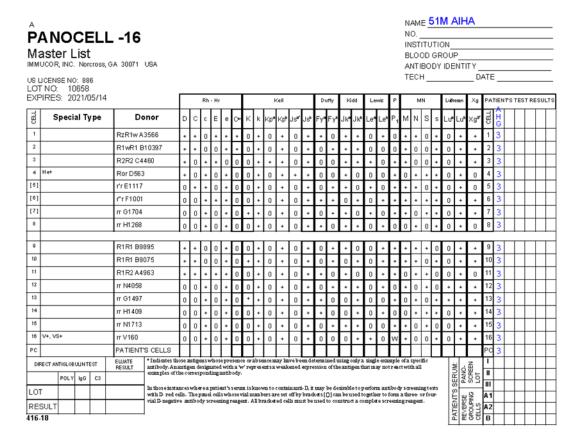
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	INTERPRETATION:	
-		
_		



# Transfusion Medicine workup:

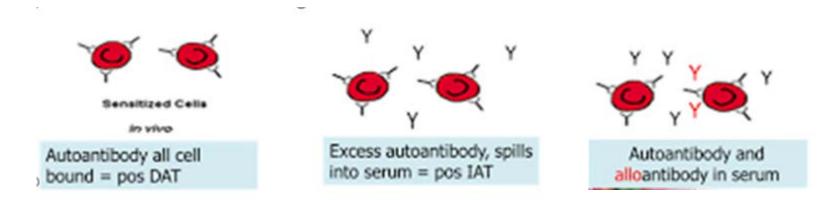
- Set up RBC panel and include an auto control
  - All cells positive 3+
  - Auto control positive 3+
  - DAT: IgG positive 3+





### Transfusion Medicine workup:

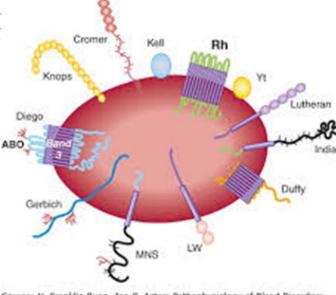
- Auto control positive but only autoantibody?
- Must remove the interference of the autoantibody to determine if patient has an alloantibody
- Page TM physician on call
- Patient history: transfusion, pregnancy, med list



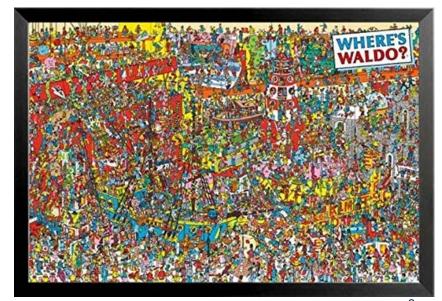


#### What to crossmatch?

- O neg RBC not the universal donor in this case
- Crossmatch ABORh matched only?
  - All crossmatch results will be incompatible
  - Is there an alloantibody?



Source: H. Franklin Burn, Jon C. Aster: Pathophysiology of Blood Disorders www.accessmedicine.com Copyright © McCraw-Hill Education. All rights reserved.





### Blood needed urgently:

- Phenotype patient for common antigens:
  - CcEe K Jka Jkb Fya Fyb S s
- Crossmatch RBC that are phenotype similar:
  - Avoid alloantibody
  - Difficult match?
  - Order in from CBS
  - Drop some antigens
  - RBC crossmatch will still be incompatible





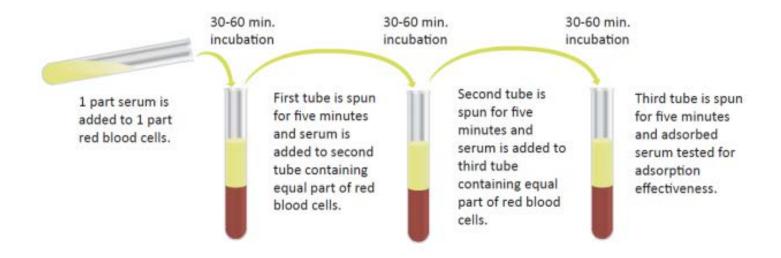
### Adsorption of autoantibodies:

- Use RBC to remove an antibody from patient's plasma
- Useful in exposing alloantibodies from autoantibodies





### Adsorption takes time!



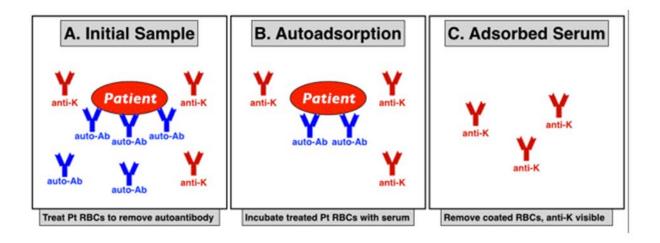
Time per procedure = 105-195 min.



11

# Autoadsorption:

- Patient must not have been transfused in last 3 months
- Safest type of adsorption
- Uses patient's own RBC as a 'magnet'

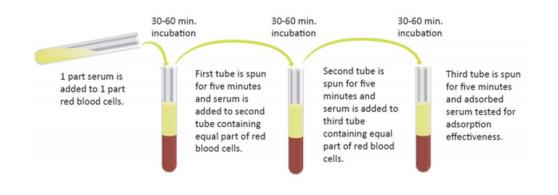




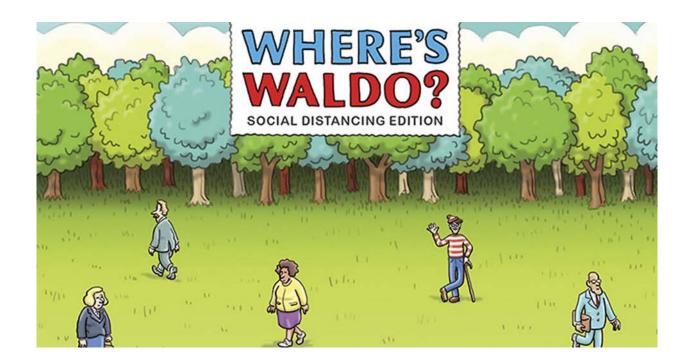
# Autoadsorption

- Patient RBC are already coated with the autoantibody
- Must dissociate the autoantibody off the patient's RBC to allow for better adsorption
- Treat patient RBC with ZZAP (papain, DTT) then perform adsorption
- Use adsorbed plasma for antibody screen/investigation





Time per procedure = 105-195 min.





#### **PANOCELL -16**

Master List

IMMUCOR, INC. Norcross, GA 30071 USA

US LICENSE NO: 886

NAME 51M A	IHA
NO.	
INSTITUTION	
BLOOD GROUP	
ANTIBODY IDEN	ITITY
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### Alloadsorption:

- To be performed when no pre-transfusion RBC available
- Risk: may adsorb clinically significant alloantibodies
- Pretransfusion phenotypes?
  - Select RBC that are phenotype identical
- Differential adsorption
  - Complex
  - Time consuming



# Differential Alloadsorption:

- Use multiple homologous RBC with known antigens
- ZZAP treat the RBC:
  - DTT: destroys Kell system
  - Papain: removes Fya, Fyb, M, N, S and s
- Select R1R1, R2R2 and rr, ensure one of the three is Jka- and one is Jkb-



Adsorbing RBC Phenotype	Potential Antibodies Removed	Potential Antibodies Remaining in Plasma (in addition to Kell, Duffy, MNS antibodies)
Rh Antigens		
R1R1 (DCe/DCe)	Anti-D, anti-C, anti-e	Anti-c, anti-E
	Autoantibody	
R2R2 (DcE/DcE)	Anti-D, anti-c, anti-E	Anti-C, anti-e
	Autoantibody	
rr (dce/dce)	Anti-c, anti-e	Anti-D, anti-C, anti-E
	Autoantibody	
Kidd Antigens		
Jka/Jka	Anti-Jka	Anti-Jkb
	Autoantibody	
Jkb/Jkb	Anti-Jkb	Anti-Jka
	Autoantibody	



#### PANOCELL -16

#### Master List

IMMUCOR, INC. Norcross, GA 30071 USA

TIG LICENSE NO: 998

NAME 51M AIHA	<b>\</b>
NO	
INSTITUTION	
BLOOD GROUP	
ANTIBODY IDENTITY	Υ
TECH	DATE

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3					R2R2 C4	460	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Τ	3	3	0	0	0	
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# Cautionary tale:

- Patient transfused every 2 weeks
- This week all panel cells positive and auto
- DAT positive, eluate positive
- Differential alloadsorption performed
- Patient transfused with 2 RBC units crossmatched compatible with adsorbed plasma
- Patient is home with fever and lower flank pain



#### PANOCELL -16

Master List
IMMUCOR, INC. Norcross, GA 30071 USA

NAME	Lutheran	
NO		
INSTIT	UTION	
BLOOD	GROUP	
ANT IBO	ODY IDENTITY	
TECH	DA <sup>*</sup>	TE

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# Crossmatching:

- Use neat and/or adsorbed plasma
  - Neat crossmatch would be "incompatible"
  - Adsorbed plasma would be compatible
- Crossmatch phenotype similar regardless





# Warm autoantibody with specificity:

- Most WAA show panaggultination
- If showing specificity usually in Rh system
- Often auto anti-e like
- What to transfuse?
  - May expose the patient to 'double dose' antigen absent from their own cell
  - If active hemolysis is ongoing, blood lacking that antigen should be selected aabb 20th Ed Tech Manual



#### IQMH VI.I: TM122

When clinically significant red cell antibodies are found, or the recipient's history contains a record of such antibodies, donor units lacking the corresponding antigen should be selected for transfusion and shall be demonstrated to be compatible by a crossmatch method designed to detect such antibodies. Any exceptions shall be approved by the medical director or his or her designate.

When the clinical situation justifies an exception, the risk of using incompatible blood must be communicated to the physician, who must accept and sign for acceptance. [1219]



#### Conclusion:

- Working up patients for autoantibodies is time consuming and usually will delay transfusion
- Large hematology centers process many patients with autoantibodies throughout the week
- Need informed technical staff and the support of TM physicians and good operating procedures/policies







