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Patient Blood Management: a new  
standard of care to significantly improve  
outcomes and reduce costs

Prof. Dr. Axel Hofmann  
Zürich, Switzerland & Perth Australia



November 15<sup>th</sup> 2017, Düsseldorf (DE)



# Patient Blood Management: a new standard of care to significantly improve outcomes and reduce costs

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**UniversitätsSpital  
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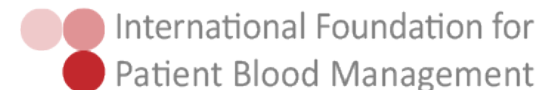
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# Disclaimer

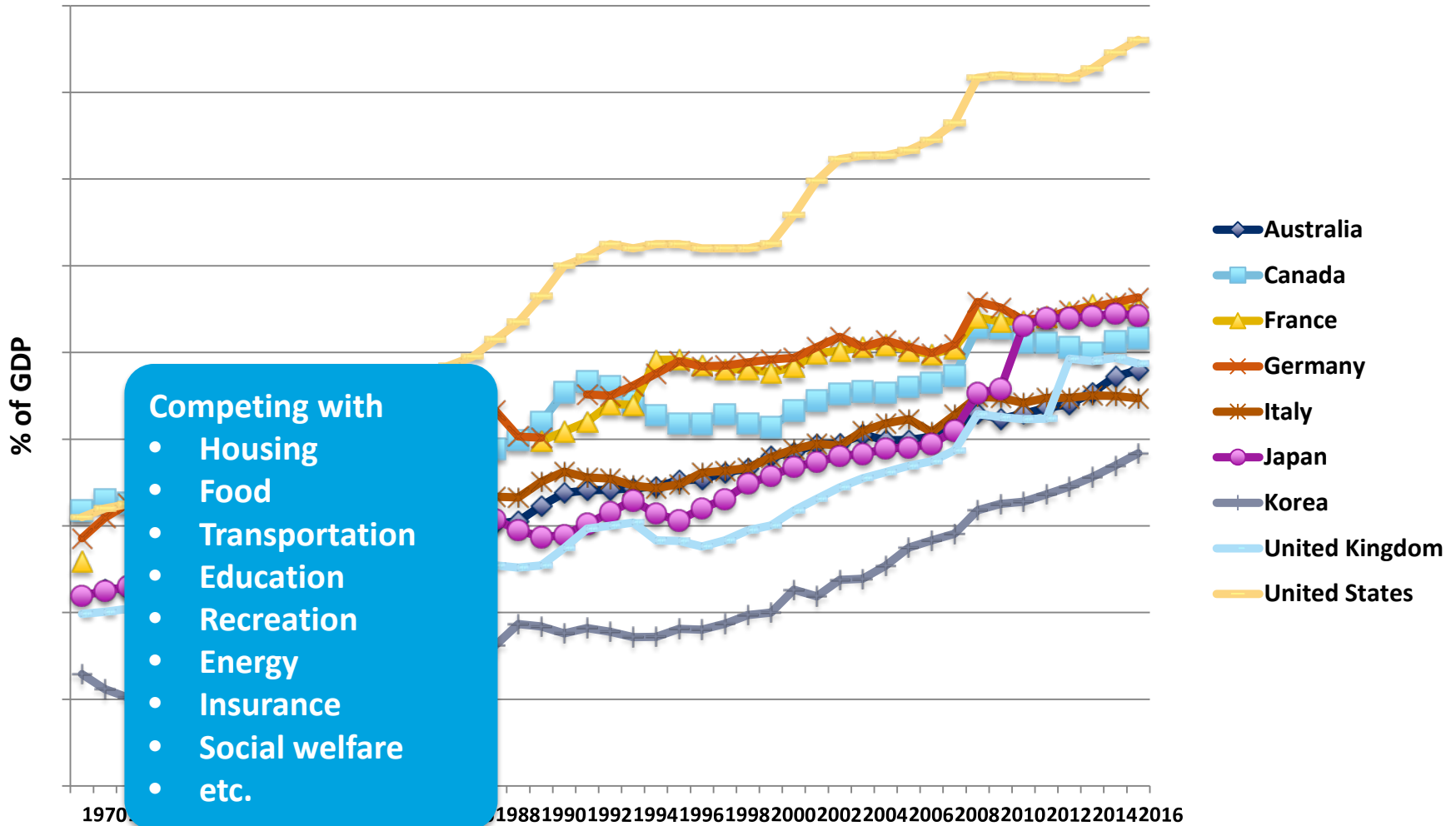
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- Vision Plus S.r.L., Italy
- Western Australia Department of Health, Perth, Australia



# The Global Health Care Crisis

# Health Care Expenditures – All Providers (selected countries)



OECD Health Data 2017

EDITORIALS



## A Glimpse of the Next 100 Years in Medicine

Isaac S. Kohane, M.D., Ph.D., Jeffrey M. Drazen, M.D., and Edward W. Campion, M.D.

- **[T]he era of shifting more and more economic resources toward health care is going to end.**
- **The medicine of the future will focus on more efficient use of resources.**



# The Grey Tsunami: Aggravating the Crisis

March 7, 2014

# THE HUFFINGTON POST

## THE BLOG

*Featuring fresh takes and real-time analysis from  
HuffPost's signature lineup of contributors*

**HOT ON THE BLOG**

**Nadia Tolokonnik  
Harry Belafonte**



**Susan Blumenthal,  
M.D.**

*Public Health Editor at HuffPost and  
Former U.S. Assistant Surgeon  
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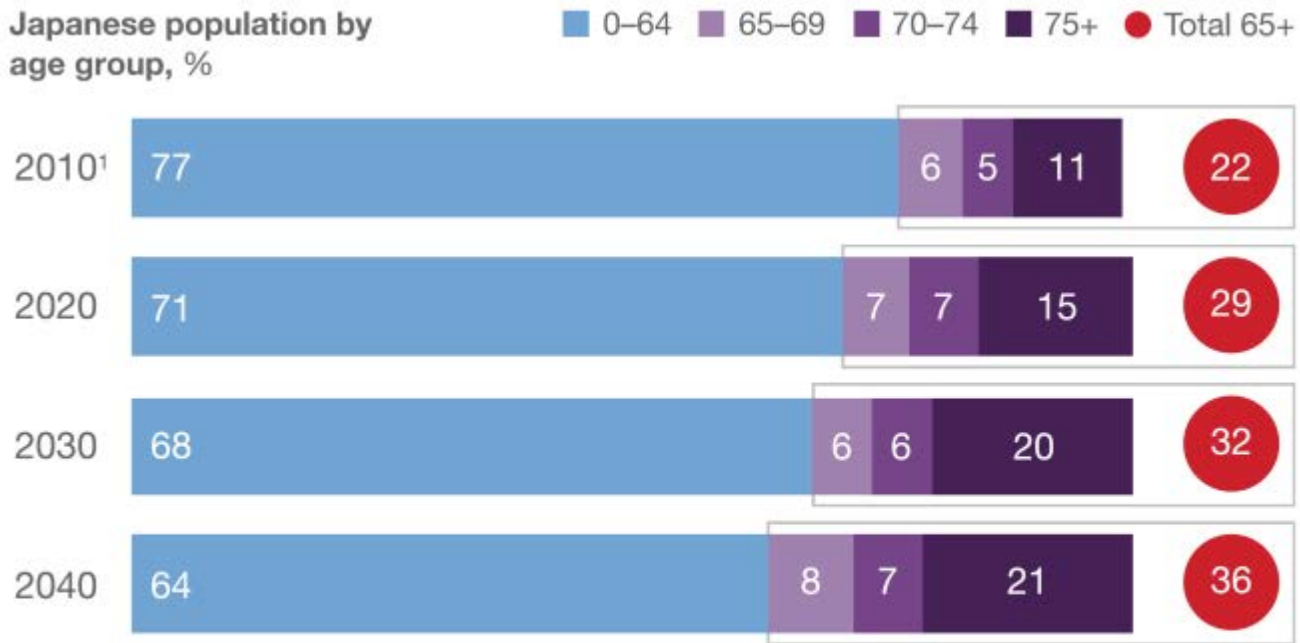
234

## **Baby Boomers: Public Health's Biggest Challenge**



# From Aging to Hyperaging

Japanese population by age group, %

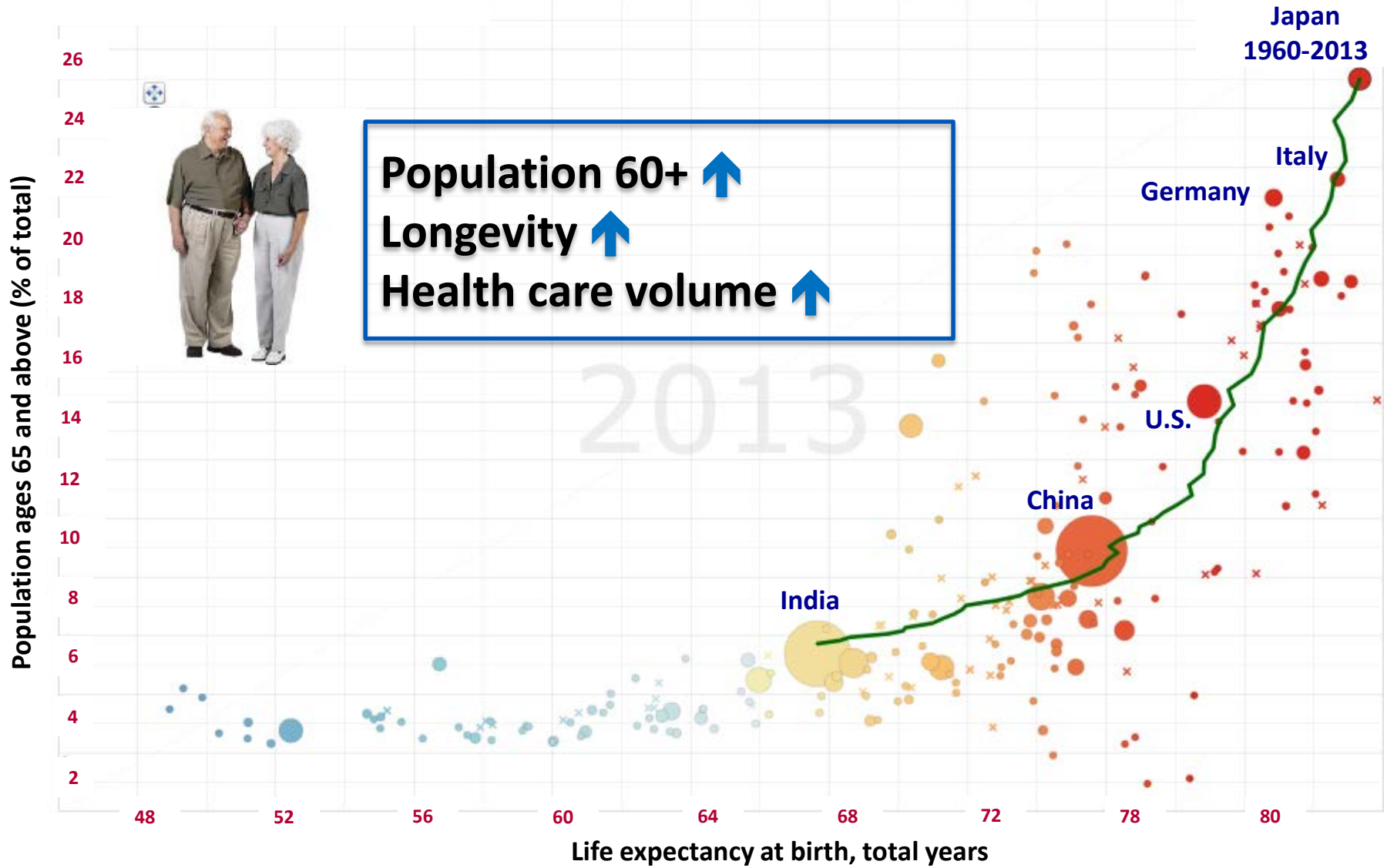


<sup>1</sup>Figures do not sum to 100%, because of rounding.

Source: e-Stat (Japan's portal for government statistics); IHS Global Insight World Market Monitor

*Adachi M, Ishida R, Oka G. Japan: Lessons from a hyperaging society. McKinsey Quarterly, 2015*

# Population, total





# Mitigating the Crisis, but how?



3.1

**Analyze what is going on and wrong in  
health care**

# The financial dimension of what is going wrong

## Health financing March 2014

### Key facts<sup>1</sup>

- 100 million people are pushed into poverty every year because they have to pay directly for their health care.
- WHO recommends moving away from direct, out-of-pocket payments to using prepaid mechanisms to raise funds for health.
- In 2011, US\$ 6.9 trillion was spent on health.
- Typically between 20–40% of health spending is wasted.

A minimum of US\$ 44 is needed per person per year to provide basic, life-saving health services: 26 WHO Member States spend less than this in 2011<sup>2</sup>

## WHO Global Health Expenditure Atlas

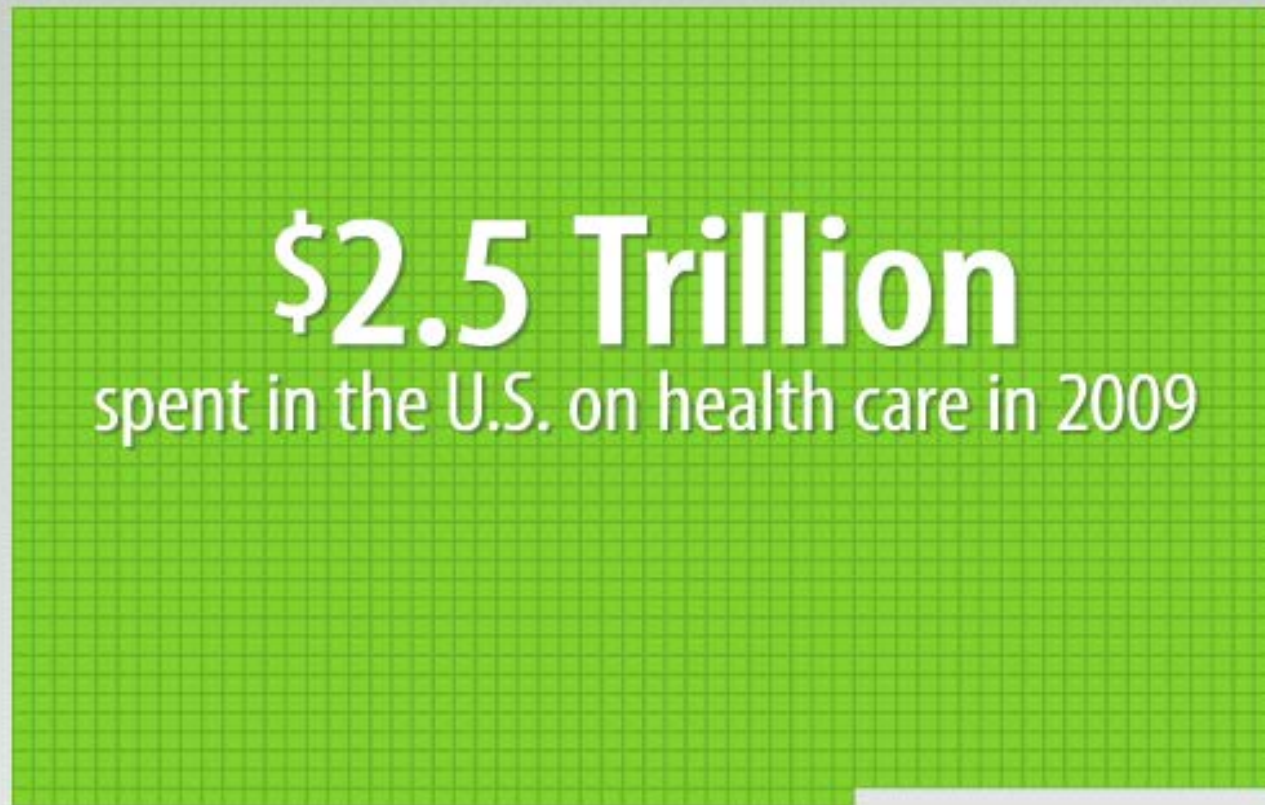
September 2014



# The Cost of Health Care

## How much are we spending?

■ = \$1 Billion



THE HEALTHCARE IMPERATIVE Lowering Costs and Improving Outcomes

# The Cost of Health Care

## How much is waste?

■ = \$1 Billion

Total 2009 health care spending\*:

France	\$243 Billion
Germany	\$339 Billion
Italy	\$183 Billion
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$765 Billion</u>

**WASTE:**  
**\$765 Billion**  
30% of 2009 total  
health care spending


\*Stats.OECD.org

Source: Data from workshop presentations and discussions summarized in *The Healthcare Imperative*



# The Cost of Health Care

## How much is waste?

Click the diagram for more detail or here to **CONTINUE** 

■ = \$1 Billion

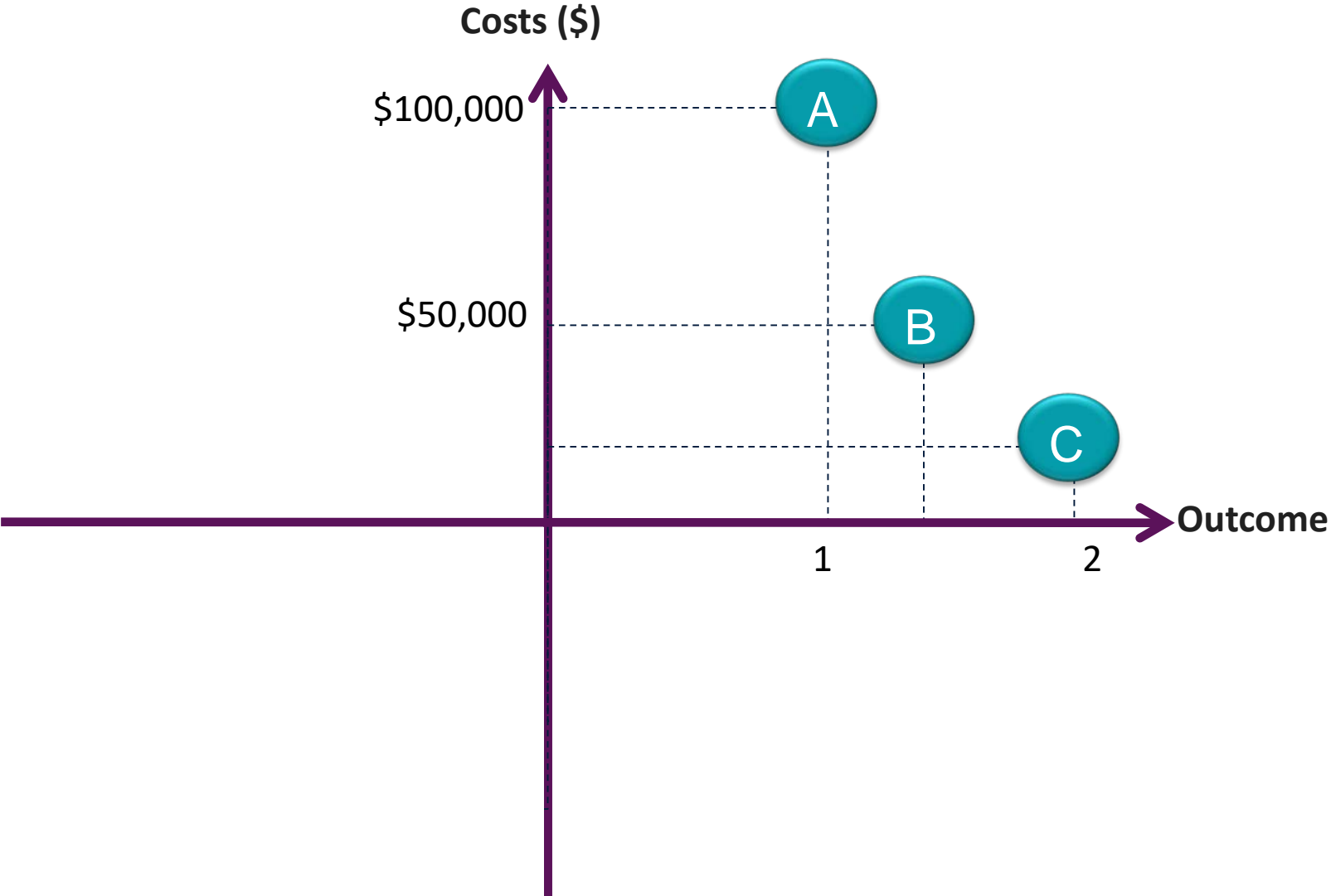


Source: Data from workshop presentations and discussions summarized in *The Healthcare Imperative*

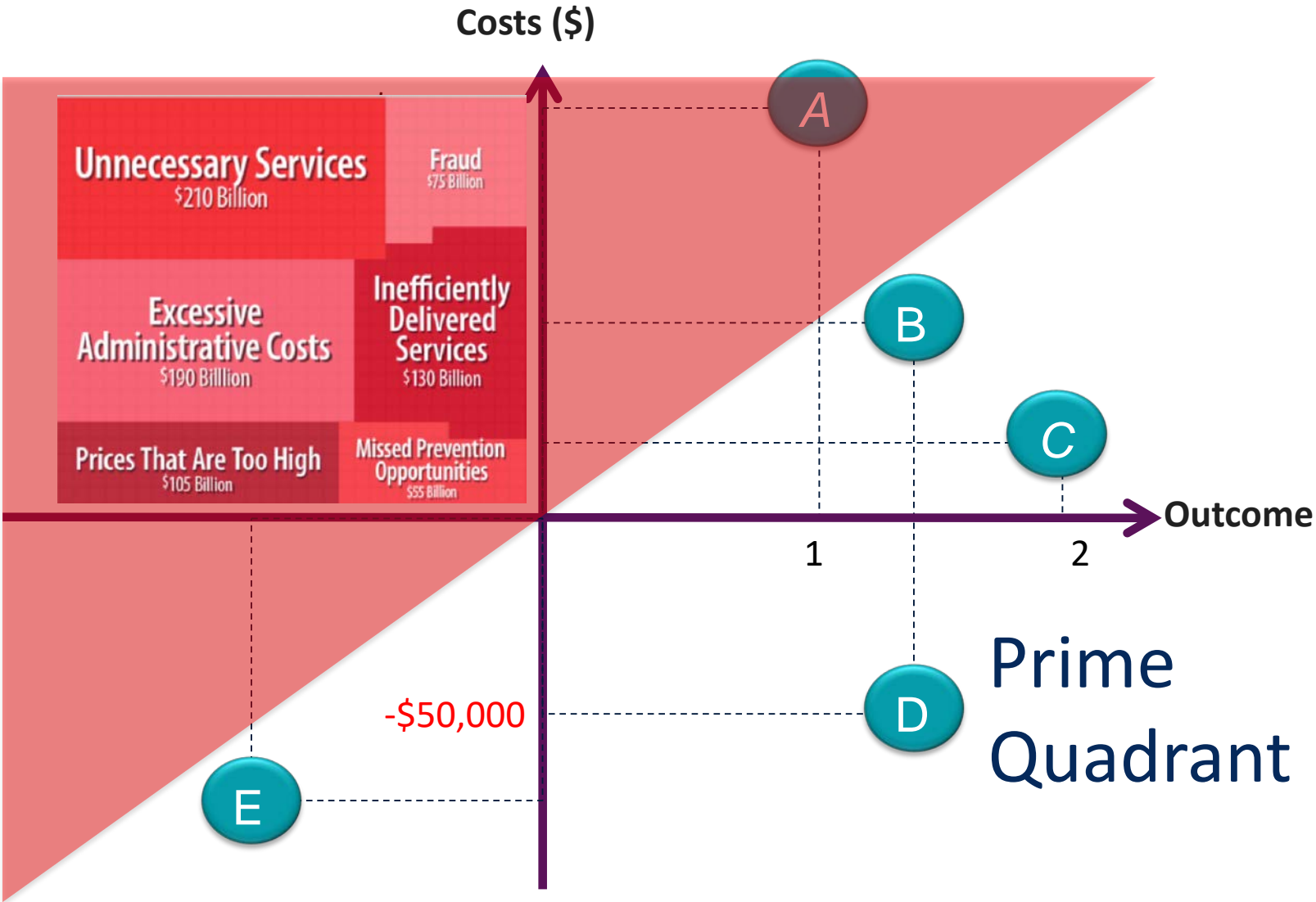




# Cost-Effectiveness Plane



# Cost-Effectiveness Plane





**Focus on one of the bigger issues**

# The triad of anaemia, bleeding & transfusion



# Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 310 diseases and injuries, 1990–2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015

*GBD 2015 Disease and Injury Incidence and Prevalence Collaborators\**

[www.thelancet.com](http://www.thelancet.com) Vol 388 October 8, 2016

- The impairment that affected the greatest number of people in 2015 was **anaemia, with 2.36 billion (2.35–2.37 billion) individuals affected**
- The prevalence of **iron-deficiency anaemia** alone was **1.46 billion** (1.45-1.46 billion).



# Meta-analysis of the association between preoperative anaemia and mortality after surgery

- **949'449 patients of 24 studies analyzed**
- **39% of patients were anemic (WHO definition)**
- **Anemia was associated with**
  - ⇒ Perioperative mortality **↑** - OR 2.90 (2.30 – 3.68,  $p < 0.001$ )
  - ⇒ Acute kidney injury **↑** - OR 3.75 (2.95 – 4.76,  $p < 0.001$ )
  - ⇒ Infections **↑** - OR 1.93 (1.06 – 1.55,  $p < 0.01$ )
  - ⇒ Stroke in cardiac surgery **↑** - OR 1.28 (1.17 – 3.18,  $p < 0.01$ )
  - ⇒ RBC transfusion **↑** - OR 5.04 (4.12 – 6.17,  $p < 0.001$ )

# Bleeding



**“Uncontrolled hemorrhage is the only defense of the unconscious patient against the incompetent surgeon.”**



William Stewart Halsted  
1852 – 1922  
Johns Hopkins University

## Major blood loss associated with increased

- Mortality (3-fold)
- Major morbidity (3-fold)
- ICU and hospital length of stay
- Likelihood of transfusion

## Causes

- On average 75 - 90% local surgical interruption or vessel interruption
- 10-25% acquired or congenital coagulopathy

Shander A. *Surgery* 2007

Ranucci M et al. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2013; 96:478

Vivacqua et al *Ann Thorac Surg* 2011

Christensen et al *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2009

Spence et al *Am J Surg* 1990

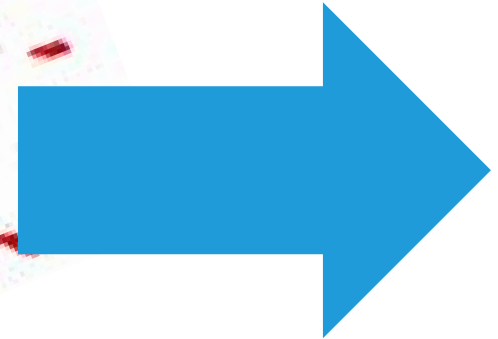
Stokes, M.E., et al *BMC Health Serv Res*, 2011

Ye, X., et al *BMC Health Serv Res*, 2013

Alstrom, U., et al *Br J Anaesth*, 2012

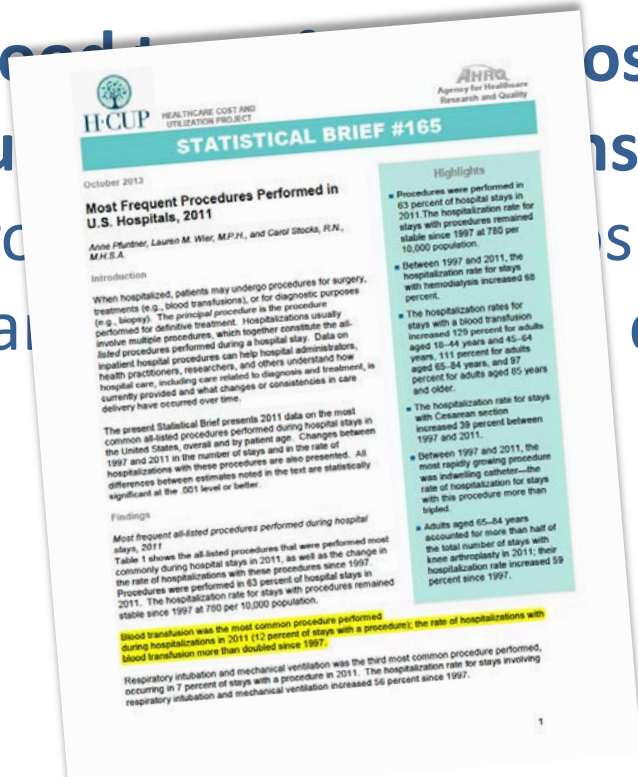






Blood  
du  
pro  
tra

Most common procedure performed  
in 2011 (12% of stays with a  
hospitalizations with blood  
doubled since 1997.



<http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb165.pdf>

**“[M]ore patients have died in any one year owing to transfusion immunomodulation’s side effects than died in the entire transfusion transmitted AIDS epidemic”**

*Blumberg, N. and J.M. Heal, Immunomodulation by blood transfusion: an evolving scientific and clinical challenge. Am J Med, 1996. 101(3): p. 299-308.*

Ann Thorac Surg 2001;72:S1832-7

## **Blood Transfusion: The Silent Epidemic**

Bruce D. Spiess, MD

Department of Anesthesiology, Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia

# The Multi-Billion Dollar Question:

of **≈ 150 million allogeneic blood components per year**

Does transfusion do what it is intended to do—improve outcome or prevent adverse outcomes?

- There are few if any articles that support transfusion actually improving patient outcomes.
- The majority of database papers show associations between transfusion utilization and with immunosuppression, increased infection, increased renal failure, multisystem organ failure, and death.

## Studies reporting a dose-response increase in adverse outcomes associated with red blood cell transfusion

Author/Year	Population	Sample size	Dose-response increased adverse outcome
Shaw 2014 <sup>19</sup>	Cardiac surgery	3'516	Mortality
Horvarth 2013 <sup>20</sup>	Cardiac surgery	5'158	Infection
Mikkola 2012 <sup>21</sup>	Cardiac surgery	2'226	Stroke
Stone 2012 <sup>22</sup>	Cardiac surgery	1'491	Mortality
Van Straten 2010 <sup>23</sup>	Cardiac surgery	10'425	Mortality
Hajjar 2010 <sup>24</sup>	Cardiac surgery	512	Morbidity & mortality
Karkouti 2009 <sup>25</sup>	Cardiac surgery	3'460	Acute kidney injury
Scott 2008 <sup>26</sup>	Cardiac surgery	1'746	Postoperative LOS
Murphy 2007 <sup>27</sup>	Cardiac surgery	8'500	Infection & ischemic events
Kulier 2007 <sup>28</sup>	Cardiac surgery	5'065	Cardiac and non-cardiac adverse events
Banbury 2006 <sup>29</sup>	Cardiac surgery	15'592	Septicemia, bacteremia, superficial & deep sternal wound infection
Koch 2006 <sup>30</sup>	Cardiac surgery	11'963	In-hospital mortality, renal failure, postoperative ventilatory support, postoperative infection, cardiac and neurologic morbidity, overall postoperative morbidity
Koch 2006 <sup>31</sup>	Cardiac surgery	10'289	Long-term (10-years) survival
Koch 2006 <sup>32</sup>	Cardiac surgery	7'321	Functional recovery
Rogers 2006 <sup>33</sup>	Cardiac surgery	9'218	Infection
Chelemer 2002 <sup>34</sup>	Cardiac surgery	533	Bacterial infection
Leal-Noval 2001 <sup>35</sup>	Cardiac surgery	738	Infection, pneumonia

*Adapted from Farmer SL, Hofmann A, Isbister J. Transfusion and Outcomes. Patient Blood Management 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Thieme; Stuttgart, New York: 2015*

# 2007



- 8,500 pts
- Compared transfused vs non-transfused after multivariable logistic regression and propensity score analysis

- 30-day mortality was over 6-times higher in the txd patients
- Increased ICU, high-dependency unit and hospital length of stay

“RBC transfusion appears to be harmful for almost all cardiac surgery patients”

Outcome	Odds ratio	C.I.
Composite infection	3.38	2.60 - 4.40
Ischaemic events	3.35	2.68 - 4.35

Infectious Events	
RBC units txd	Adjusted OR; CI
0	AOR 1.0; 95% CI, ...
1	AOR 1.46; 95% CI, 0.92–2.11
2	AOR 2.36; 95% CI, 1.42–3.30
3 or 4	AOR 3.82; 95% CI, 2.22–5.47
5-9	AOR 10.75; 95% CI, 5.83–15.9
>9	AOR 45.44; 95% CI, 22.6–73.6

## Studies reporting a dose-response increase in adverse outcomes associated with red blood cell transfusion

Author/Year	Population	Sample size	Dose-response increased adverse outcome
Parsons 2013 <sup>12</sup>	ICU	124	Decreased muscle strength
Zilberberg 2007 <sup>13</sup>	ICU	4'892	ARDS
Gong 2005 <sup>14</sup>	ICU	688	ARDS & ARDS mortality
Shorr 2005 <sup>15</sup>	ICU	4'892	Blood stream infection
Corwin 2004 <sup>16</sup>	ICU	4'892	Mortality, ARDS, ICU and hospital LOS
Taylor 2006 <sup>17</sup>	ICU	2'085	Nosocomial infection, ICU & hospital LOS, mortality
Kneyber 2007 <sup>18</sup>	Pediatric ICU	295	Mortality

*Adapted from Farmer SL, Hofmann A, Isbister J. Transfusion and Outcomes. Patient Blood Management 2nd Edition Thieme; Stuttgart, New York: 2015*

## Studies reporting a dose-response increase in adverse outcomes associated with red blood cell transfusion

Author/Year	Population	Sample size	Dose-response increased adverse outcome
Goobie 2016 <sup>36</sup>	Non-cardiac surgery, pediatrics	114'395	Mortality, Infection
Ferraris 2012 <sup>37</sup>	Non-cardiac surgery	941'496	Morbidity, mortality, resource use
Ferraris 2011 <sup>38</sup>	Thoracic surgery	8'728	Morbidity & mortality
Al-Refaie 2012 <sup>39</sup>	Cancer surgery	38'926	Mortality, complications, hospital LOS
Linder 2013 <sup>40</sup>	Nephrectomy	2'318	Mortality
Bernard 2009 <sup>41</sup>	General surgery	125'177	Morbidity & mortality
Beattie 2009 <sup>42</sup>	Non-cardiac surgery	7'759	Mortality
Bursi 2009 <sup>43</sup>	Vascular surgery	359	Mortality, MI, composite MI/mortality
Dunne 2002 <sup>44</sup>	Non-cardiac surgery	6'301	Pneumonia, hospital LOS, mortality
Gauvin 2008 <sup>45</sup>	Paediatrics	1'100	Mortality
Jagoditsch 2006 <sup>46</sup>	Rectal surgery	597	Mortality
Xenos 2012 <sup>47</sup>	Colorectal surgery	21'943	VTE
Chang 2000 <sup>48</sup>	Colorectal surgery	1'349	Infection
Vignali 1996 <sup>49</sup>	Colorectal surgery	267	Infection
Ho 2007 <sup>50</sup>	Spinal surgery	1'046	Delayed infection
Carson 1999 <sup>51</sup>	Hip fracture surgery	9'598	Infection, pneumonia
Palmieri 2006 <sup>52</sup>	Burns	666	Infection & mortality

*Adapted from Farmer SL, Hofmann A, Isbister J. Transfusion and Outcomes. Patient Blood Management 2nd Edition Thieme; Stuttgart, New York: 2015*



## Studies reporting a dose-response increase in adverse outcomes associated with red blood cell transfusion

Author/Year	Population	Sample size	Dose-response increased adverse outcome
Jones <sup>1</sup>	Massive Bleeding/Trauma	1'538	Organ failure, ventilator-associated pneumonia, sepsis, blood stream infection, catheter-related bloodstream infection, UTI, ARDS and nosocomial infection
Johnson 2016 <sup>2</sup>	Massive Bleeding	272'592	Mortality, Infection, kidney injury, thrombotic, respiratory, ischemic events and composite morbidity
Patel <sup>3</sup>	Massive Bleeding/Trauma	106'477	Mortality, MOF, ARDS/ ALI
Chaiwat 2009 <sup>4</sup>	Trauma	14'070	ARDS
Salim 2008 <sup>5</sup>	Traumatic Brain Injury	1'150	Mortality, ARDS, ARF, acute respiratory failure, bacteremia or fungemia, MOF, pulmonary embolism, pneumonia, sepsis
Bochicchio 2008 <sup>6</sup>	Trauma	1'172	Infection, hospital & ICU LOS, mechanical ventilations, mortality
Weinberg 2008 <sup>7</sup>	Trauma	1'624	Morbidity & mortality
Charles 2007 <sup>8</sup>	Trauma	8'215	Mortality
Malone 2003 <sup>9</sup>	Trauma	15'534	Mortality
Claridge 2002 <sup>10</sup>	Trauma	1'593	Infection
Moore 1997 <sup>11</sup>	Trauma	513	MOF

*Adapted from Farmer SL, Hofmann A, Isbister J. Transfusion and Outcomes. Patient Blood Management 2nd Edition Thieme; Stuttgart, New York: 2015*



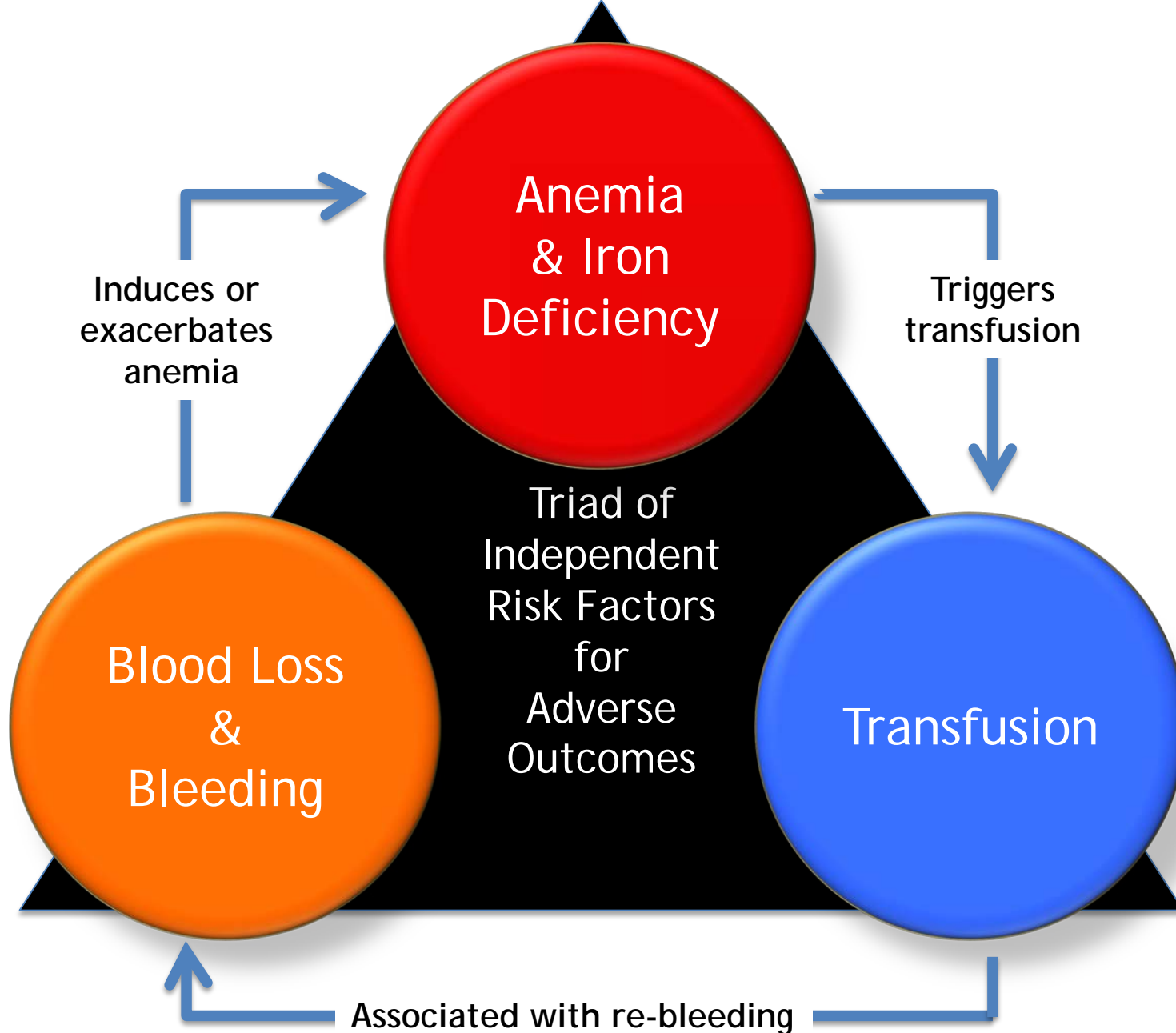
Marking  
the  
paradigm  
shift

## SAVE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES

*Transfusions are one of the most overused treatments in modern medicine, at a cost of billions of dollars. Researchers are working out how to cut back.*

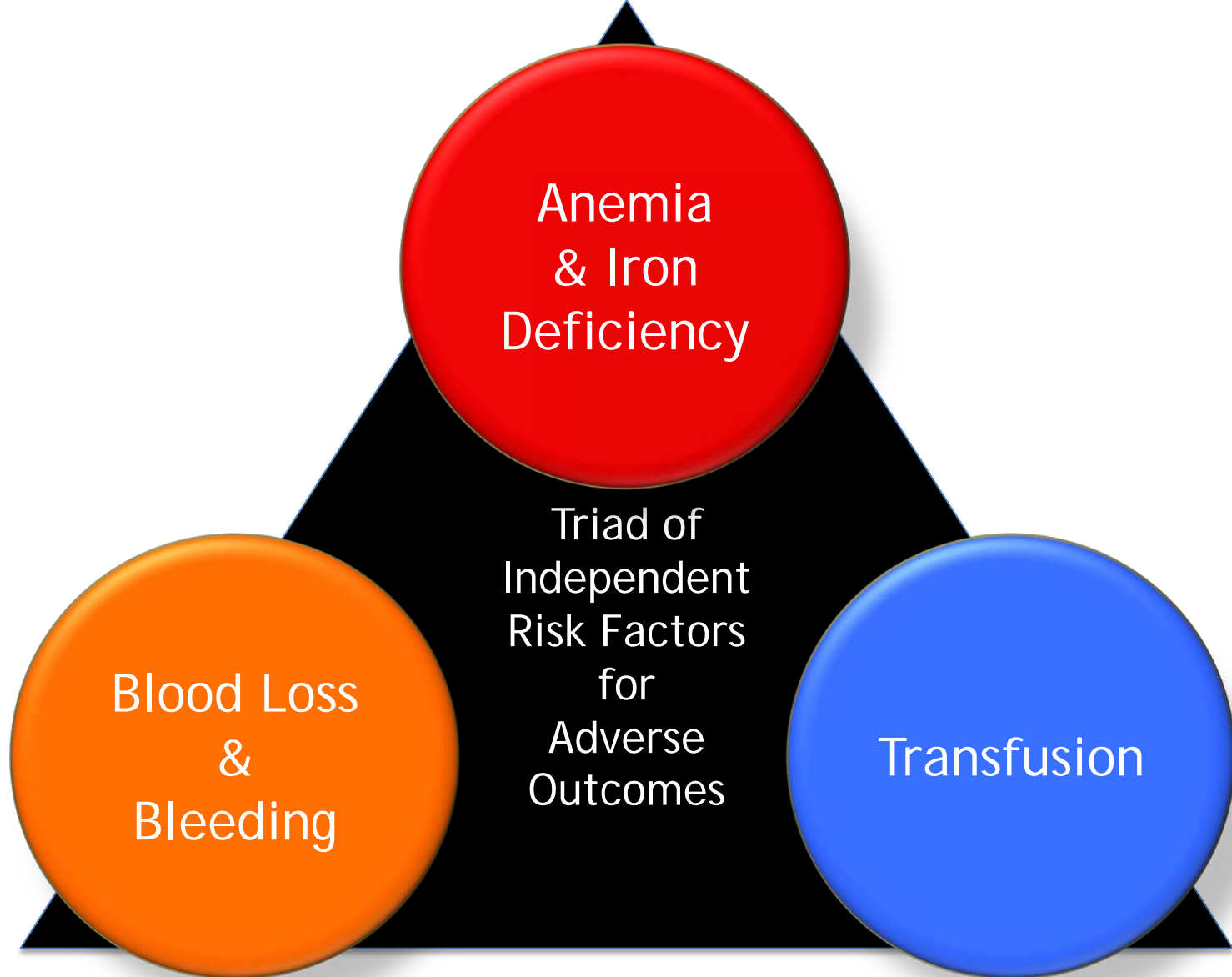
BY EMILY ANTHES







## PBM: Breaking the viscous cycle



# MODIFYING THE RISK FACTORS

## 1st Pillar

Anemia,  
Iron  
Deficiency

## 2nd Pillar

Blood Loss  
&  
Bleeding

## 3rd Pillar

H... &

Transfusion

of  
anaemia

## 1st Pillar Optimise red cell mass

## 2nd Pillar Minimise blood loss & bleeding

## 3rd Pillar Harness & optimise physiological reserve of anaemia

PREOP

- 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 haematinic deficiencies
- Note: Anaemia is a contraindication for elective surgery

- Identify and manage bleeding risk
- Minimise iatrogenic blood loss
- Procedure planning and rehearsal

- 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

INTRAOP

- Time surgery with haematological optimisation

- Meticulous haemostasis and surgical techniques
- Blood-sparing surgical devices
- Anaesthetic blood conserving strategies
- Autologous blood options
- Maintain normothermia
- Pharmacological/haemostatic agents

- Optimise cardiac output
- Optimise ventilation and oxygenation

POSTOP

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

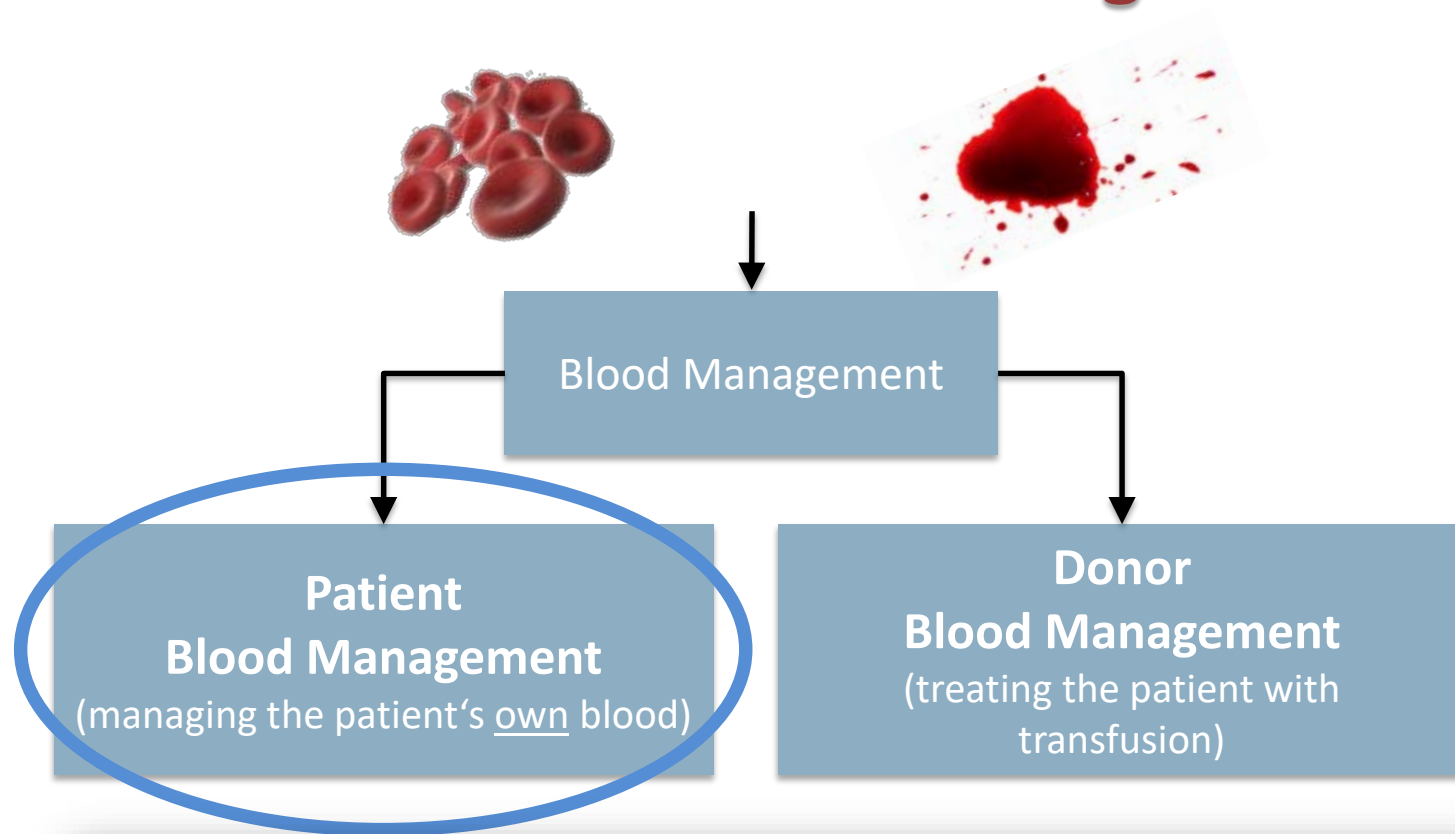
- Vigilant monitoring and management of post-operative bleeding
- Avoid secondary haemorrhage
- Rapid warming / maintain normothermia (unless hypothermia specifically indicated)
- Autologous blood salvage
- Minimise iatrogenic blood loss
- Haemostasis/anticoagulation management
- Prophylaxis of upper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

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

**Perioperative multidisciplinary multimodal patient-specific team approach**



# Anaemia and Bleeding



... because

Current Opinion in Anaesthesiology 2008, 21:657-663

EDITORIAL COMMENT

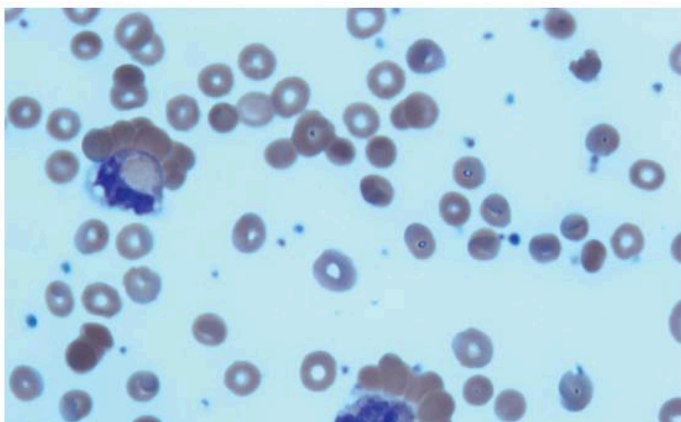
**Our own blood is still the best thing to have in our veins**

Tim Frenzel, Hugo Van Aken and Martin Westphal

# PBM DEFINITION

**Patient Blood Management (PBM) is an evidence-based bundle of care to optimize patient outcomes by managing and preserving a patient's blood**

# TRANSFUSION



Volume 57, June 2017 TRANSFUSION 1325



## EDITORIAL

### Patient Blood Management: the new standard

Preoperative anemia, surgical blood loss,<sup>2</sup> and transfusion of allogeneic blood products<sup>4-6</sup> all adversely affect patient outcome. Patient Blood Management (PBM) aims to reduce the need for blood transfusions preemptively to improve patient safety and outcome.<sup>7</sup> The three pillars of PBM consist of treating preoperative anemia, reducing perioperative blood loss, and optimizing anemia tolerance. In addition, the use of restrictive, evidence-based, and patient-centered transfusion triggers is an integral part of PBM.<sup>3,8</sup>

Implementing one or more PBM measures has indeed improved certain patient outcomes in the past,<sup>9-12</sup> and some of these studies included well over 100,000 patients.<sup>10,13</sup> What is then so unique in the landmark study by Leahy and colleagues<sup>14</sup> in this issue of TRANSFUSION in which they describe the success of the health system-wide PBM program implementation in Western Australia? Its uniqueness includes:

- The largest ever number of patients studied: 605,064.
- Multi-centric: four major adult tertiary care hospitals.
- Health system-wide PBM program not focused on surgical disciplines alone.
- Multiple outcomes assessed:
  - Safety;
  - Clinical outcomes;
  - Transfusions;
  - Costs.
- Duration of the study: 6 years.

The results are indeed impressive. The authors report a progressively reduced adjusted in-hospital mortality (–28%), a shorter hospital length of stay (–15%), less hospital-acquired infections (–21%), and a reduced rate of myocardial infarction or stroke (–31%). Transfusions of allogeneic blood products were also reduced by 41% whereby transfusions of red blood cells (RBCs) were down 41%, fresh-frozen plasma (FFP) down 47%, and platelets (PLTs) down 27%. These trends resulted in reduction of blood product acquisition costs of more than US\$18M and a reduction of activity-based transfusion costs of more than US\$80M.

There is one more remarkable achievement: the percentage of elective patients admitted with anemia decreased from 20.8% to 14.4%. This result can be attributed to consistent identification and treatment of existing anemia and iron deficiency in the weeks before hospitalization. To my knowledge, this study is the first worldwide so far reporting a substantial reduction of the preoperative anemia rate. This achievement is highly remarkable given the logistic complexity of preoperative anemia treatment.

How was this program better than any other PBM program so far? The current article does not give a definitive answer. However, the extremely intense educational activity of the proponents of the Western Australia PBM program already described in a previous report by Leahy and colleagues in 2014<sup>13</sup> may be a key element in increasing the awareness of the high incidence of preoperative anemia and iron deficiency and its negative consequences on outcome.<sup>1,15,16</sup> In addition, hospital physicians and referring general practitioners could consult readily accessible diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms ([http://www.healthnetworks.health.wa.gov.au/modelsofcare/docs/Elective\\_Joint\\_Replacement.pdf](http://www.healthnetworks.health.wa.gov.au/modelsofcare/docs/Elective_Joint_Replacement.pdf)). Ironically, the highest-quality studies on the success of pre- and postoperative anemia treatment<sup>17-20</sup> were published years after the start of the Western Australia PBM program. However, a consensus is growing that elective surgery should be delayed until anemia correction. This movement started with individual claims.<sup>3</sup> Then experts stopped a prospective randomized study on the efficacy of preoperative treatment of iron deficiency anemia with intravenous (IV) iron due to a much more favorable outcome in the treatment group as compared to placebo group.<sup>17</sup> Finally, a professional society (Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland [AAGBI])<sup>21</sup> recommended delaying elective surgery until anemia correction in patients with an expected blood loss of more than 500 mL or an expected transfusion rate of more than 10%.<sup>8,22</sup> In addition, preoperative correction of iron deficiency without anemia has become recognized as likely to be beneficial for patient outcome.<sup>22</sup>

The time course of the improvements of the clinical outcomes is highly interesting. For most clinical outcomes, it took 2 to 3 years until they became significantly improved (Table 2 of the paper<sup>14</sup>). This lag period may well explain why other big PBM programs could only detect trends toward an improvement in clinical outcomes since most analyses published so far analyzed only the first year after the implementation of

doi:10.1111/trf.14095

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TRANSFUSION 2017;57:1325–1327



# A template for the world: Western Australia PBM Project



- WA represents one third of the Australian land mass
- 2.5 million square kilometers for 2.5 million people
- ~74% live in Perth
- Fastest growing population and fastest growing older age segment in Australia

Results from the world's largest PBM study (n=605'046)

## Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals

Michael F. Leahy,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Axel Hofmann,<sup>4,5,6</sup> Simon Towler,<sup>7</sup> Kevin M. Trentino,<sup>8</sup> Sally A. Burrows,<sup>1</sup> Stuart G. Swain,<sup>8</sup> Jeffrey Hamdorf,<sup>9,10</sup> Trudi Gallagher,<sup>11,12</sup> Audrey Koay,<sup>11</sup> Gary C. Geelhoed,<sup>11,13</sup> and Shannon L. Farmer<sup>9,14</sup>

**BACKGROUND:** Patient blood management (PBM) programs are associated with improved patient outcomes, reduced transfusions and costs. In 2008, the Western Australia Department of Health initiated a comprehensive health-system-wide PBM program. This study assesses program outcomes.

**STUDY DESIGN AND METHODS:** This was a retrospective study of 605,046 patients admitted to four major adult tertiary-care hospitals between July 2008 and June 2014. Outcome measures were red blood cell (RBC), fresh-frozen plasma (FFP), and platelet units transfused; single-unit RBC transfusions; pretransfusion hemoglobin levels; elective surgery patients anemic at admission; product and activity-based costs of transfusion; in-hospital mortality; length of stay; 28-day all-cause emergency readmissions; and hospital-acquired complications.

**RESULTS:** Comparing final year with baseline, units of RBCs, FFP, and platelets transfused per admission decreased 41% ( $p < 0.001$ ), representing a saving of AUS\$18,507,092 (US\$18,078,258) and between AUS\$80 million and AUS\$100 million (US\$78 million and US\$97 million) estimated activity-based savings. Mean pretransfusion hemoglobin levels decreased 7.9 g/dL to 7.3 g/dL ( $p < 0.001$ ), and anemic elective surgery admissions decreased 20.8% to 14.4% ( $p = 0.001$ ). Single-unit RBC transfusions increased from 33.3% to 63.7% ( $p < 0.001$ ). There were risk-adjusted reductions in hospital mortality (odds ratio [OR], 0.72; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.67-0.77;  $p < 0.001$ ), length of stay (incidence rate ratio, 0.85; 95% CI, 0.84-0.87;  $p < 0.001$ ), hospital-acquired infections (OR, 0.79; 95% CI, 0.73-0.86;  $p < 0.001$ ), and acute myocardial infarction-stroke (OR, 0.69; 95% CI, 0.58-0.82;  $p < 0.001$ ). All-cause emergency readmissions increased (OR, 1.06; 95% CI, 1.02-1.10;  $p = 0.001$ ).

**CONCLUSION:** Implementation of a unique, jurisdiction-wide PBM program was associated with improved patient outcomes, reduced blood product utilization, and product-related cost savings.



## **Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals**

*Michael F. Leahy,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Axel Hofmann,<sup>4,5,6</sup> Simon Towler,<sup>7</sup> Kevin M. Trentino,<sup>8</sup>  
Sally A. Burrows,<sup>1</sup> Stuart G. Swain,<sup>8</sup> Jeffrey Hamdorf,<sup>9,10</sup> Trudi Gallagher,<sup>11,12</sup>  
Audrey Koay,<sup>11</sup> Gary C. Geelhoed,<sup>11,13</sup> and Shannon L. Farmer<sup>9,14</sup>*

- **Quality, safety, and effectiveness initiative** with resource and economic implications.
- **Primary aim: improving medical and surgical patient outcomes while achieving significant cost savings** by applying PBM principles

*Leahy MF, Hofmann A, Towler S, et al. Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals. Transfusion 2017*



- Retrospective observational study to assess the impact on key outcome measures in **all emergency** and **elective** adult acute-care multi-day stay inpatients (**n=605,046**) admitted to the **4 major adult tertiary-care hospitals** July 2008 – June 2014.
- Hospitals perform **majority of high-complexity procedures performed in WA** including **cardiac, major trauma, burns, and obstetrics** referral services
- Multivariate analysis to control for potential confounders and changes in patient case-mix

*Leahy MF, Hofmann A, Towler S, et al. Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals. Transfusion 2017*



# Key program performance indicators



Compared to baseline year, implementation was associated in year 6 with:

- 41% reduction in blood product ( $P < 0.001$ )
- RBC txn Hb threshold decreased from 7.9 to 7.3 g/dL ( $P < 0.001$ )
- Single-unit RBC txn increased from 33% to 64% ( $P < 0.001$ )
- Proportion admitted anemic decreased from 20.8% to 14.4% ( $P = 0.001$ )
- Product acquisition cost savings of AU\$18.5 million
- Estimated activity-based cost savings \$80 - \$100 million
- A one-time investment of \$4.5M to cover 5-year change management and implementation process.

*Leahy MF, Hofmann A, Towler S, et al. Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals. Transfusion 2017*

# Key Patient Outcomes

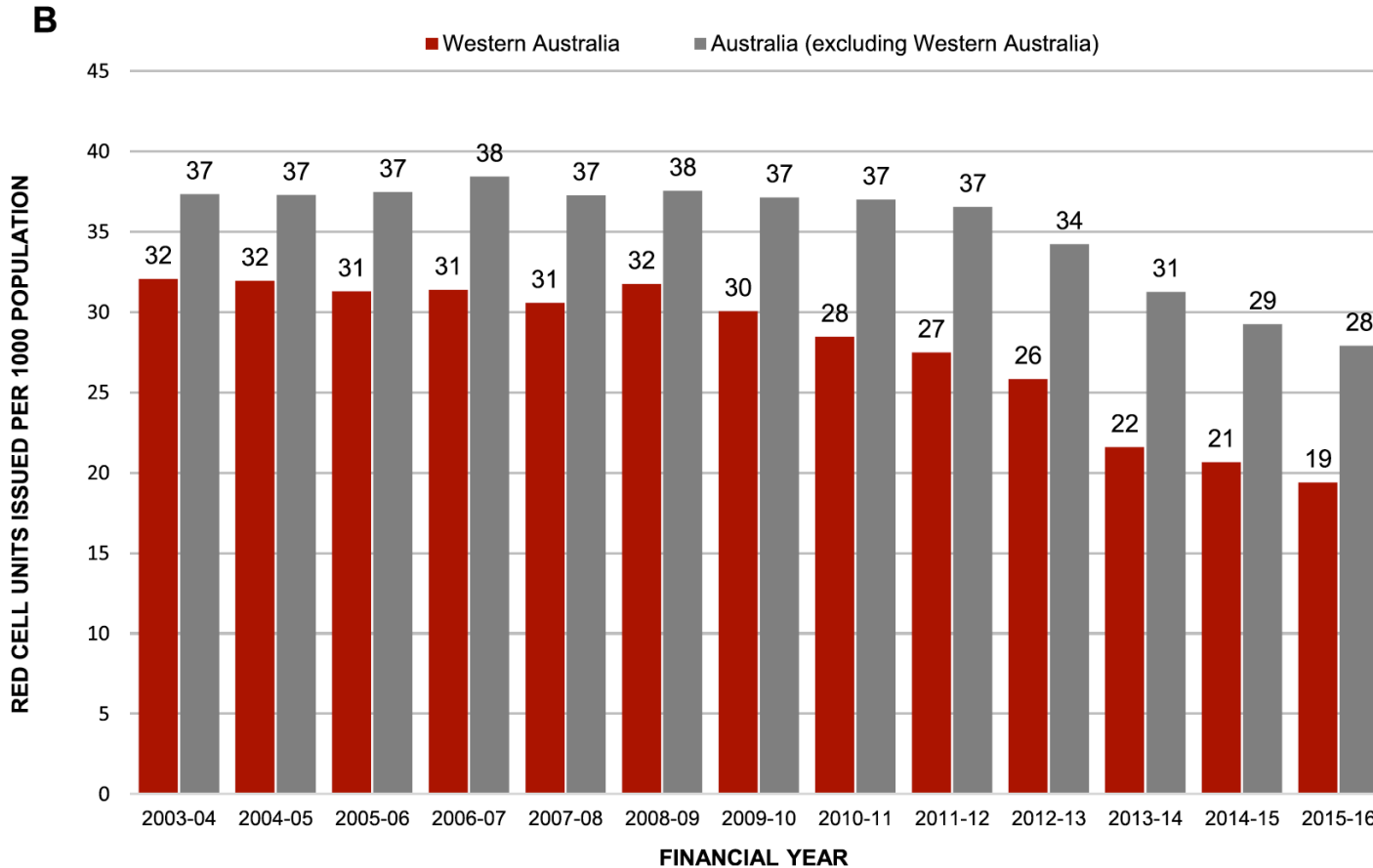


In-hospital mortality:	<b>28%</b> ↓ (95% CI, 0.67 to 0.77; P<0.001)
Length of hospital stay:	<b>15%</b> ↓ (95% CI, 0.84 to 0.87; P<0.001)
Infection:	<b>21%</b> ↓ (95% CI, 0.73 to 0.86; P<0.001)
AMI/Stroke:	<b>31%</b> ↓ (95% CI, 0.58 to 0.82; P<0.001)
Readmission:	<b>6%</b> ↑ (95% CI, 1.02 to 1.10; P<0.001)

**= additional non-valorized cost savings**

*Leahy MF, Hofmann A, Towler S, et al. Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals. Transfusion 2017*

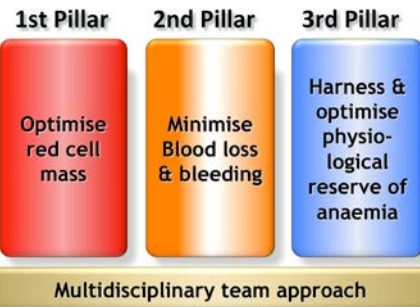
# Utilization Rate



Leahy MF, Hofmann A, Towler S, et al. Improved outcomes and reduced costs associated with a health-system-wide patient blood management program: a retrospective observational study in four major adult tertiary-care hospitals. *Transfusion* 2017



# PBM as a new standard of care



## Sixty-third World Health Assembly

Date: 17–21 May 2010

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

The Sixty-third session of the World Health Assembly took place in Geneva during 17–21 May 2010. At this session, the Health Assembly discussed a number of public health issues, including:

**WHA63.12 adopted by resolution May 21, 2010:**




*„Bearing in mind that **patient blood management means that before surgery every reasonable measure should be taken to optimize the patient’s own blood volume, to minimize the patient’s blood loss and to harness and optimize the patient-specific physiological tolerance of anaemia following WHO’s guide for optimal clinical use (three pillars of patient blood management)**“*

6.1

# Commwealth of Australia

- National Standard
- Case Studies
- Stewardship
- Patient Blood Management**
- PBM Guidelines
- Implementing Patient Blood Management
- Supporting Patients in PBM Decision Making
- PBM Guidelines Update Pilot Project
- Immunoglobulin Product Authorisation and Management
- Bleeding Disorders
- Education and Training
- Adverse Events

Immunoglobulin Product Authorisation and Management 

PBM Module 6 Neonatal and Paediatrics Out Now 

**BLOODSTAR**  
User registration **NOW OPEN**  
BloodSTAR Australia  
Immunoglobulin management system

## Patient Blood Management (PBM)



To download this video, with or without subtitles, please right-click on one of the following links and select "Save Link As..." (Chrome and Firefox), "Save target as..." (Internet Explorer), "Save linked content as..." (Opera) or "Download Linked File As..." (Safari).

- Low Quality (MP4, 480p) - [With Subtitles](#) @ (37MB), [Without Subtitles](#) @ (35MB)
- Medium Quality (MP4, 720p) - [With Subtitles](#) @ (68MB), [Without Subtitles](#) @ (64MB)
- High Quality (MP4, 1080p) - [With Subtitles](#) @ (135MB), [Without Subtitles](#) @ (142MB)

Quick links to sections on this page:

- [Patient Blood Management Guidelines](#)
- [What is PBM?](#)
- [Implementing PBM](#)
- [PBM Steering Committee \(PBM5C\)](#)

### Patient Blood Management Guidelines

Visit [Patient Blood Management Guidelines](#) to access the latest modules in the Guidelines or click on the images below to go directly to the relevant module.



<https://www.nba.gov.au>

# Patient Blood Management Guidelines: Module 2

# Perioperative

## Patient Blood Management Guidelines: Module 2 - Perioperative

Development of this module was achieved through clinical input and expertise of representatives from the Colleges and Societies listed below and an independent consumer advocate (see [Appendix A](#)).

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine  
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists  
Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society  
Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion  
Australian Orthopaedic Association  
Australian Red Cross Blood Service  
College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand  
Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists  
Royal Australasian College of Physicians  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Royal College of Nursing Australia  
Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia  
Thalassaemia Australia

The National Blood Authority gratefully acknowledges these contributions. College and Society endorsement of this Module can be found at <http://www.nba.gov.au>



Funding, Secretariat and Project Management was provided by the National Blood Authority Australia. The systematic review methods, writing of the document or development of the final recommendations and practice points have not been influenced by the views or interests of the funding body.



# Patient Blood Management

## Why important?

Patient Blood Management  
Guidelines-Module 2

Perioperative

### 3.2 Effect of anaemia on outcomes

#### Question 4 (Aetiological question) (GNQ1)

In patients undergoing surgery, is anaemia an independent risk factor for adverse outcomes?

Preoperative anaemia is independently associated with an increased risk of morbidity and mortality.

Preoperative anaemia is associated with increased hospital length of stay in non-cardiac surgery

### 3.3 Effect of red blood cell transfusion on outcomes

#### Question 5 (Interventional question) (GNQ2)

In patients undergoing surgery, what is the effect of RBC transfusion on patient outcomes?

RBC, red blood cell

In cardiac & non-cardiac surgery, RBC transfusion is independently associated with increased morbidity & mortality. This relationship is dose dependent.

In cardiac & non-cardiac surgery, RBC transfusion is associated with significantly longer stays in hospital and ICU



National Standards and Accreditation ▾

National Priorities ▾

Supporting Quality Practice ▾

Publications ▾

Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Australia (AURA) Project >

Charter of Healthcare Rights >

Collaboration with the IHPA

National Patient Blood Management Collaborative

Safety and Quality Framework >

Safety and Quality Goals >

Safety and Quality > National Priorities

## National Priorities

The Commission leads and coordinates improvements in safety and quality in health care across Australia, including the promotion, support and encouragement of the implementation of safety and quality initiatives.

A collaborative and consultative approach is undertaken in priorities of the health system that benefit from national coordination. Under its legislation the Commission has wide ranging functions that also include the formulation of safety and quality standards and indicators.

### National Patient Blood Management Collaborative

The Commission has been engaged by the Department of Health to lead the National PBM Collaborative, in consultation with the National Blood Authority and the states and territories, to promote appropriate care in relation to the use of blood across Australia.



National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards

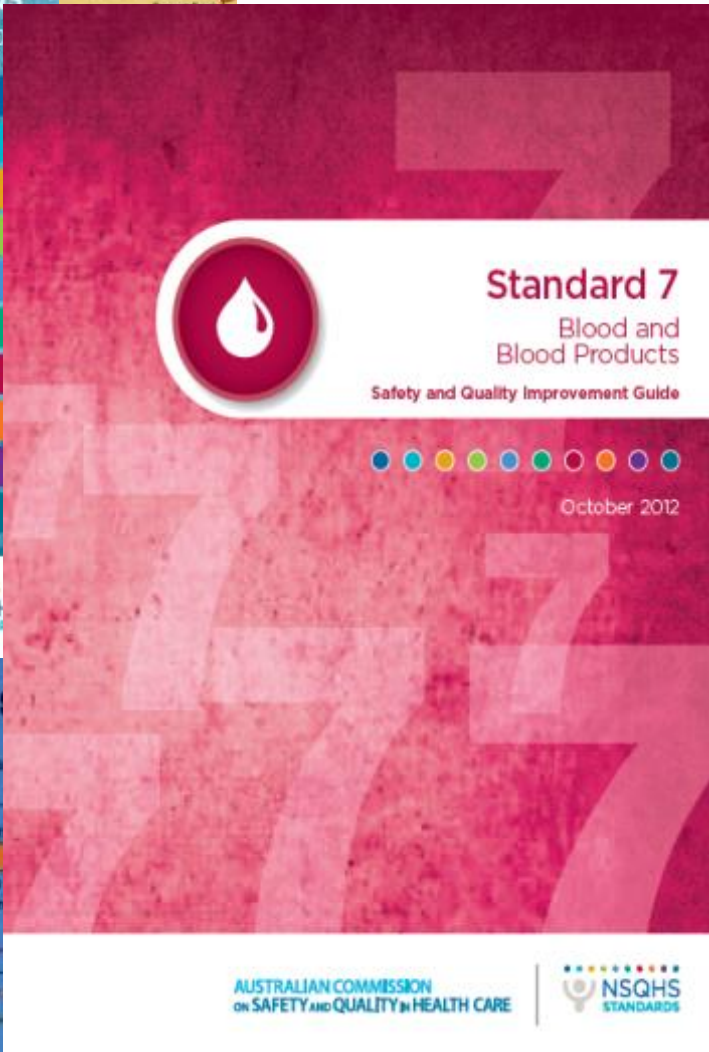
September 2012

2012

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTHCARE



NSQHS STANDARDS



Standard 7  
Blood and Blood Products

Safety and Quality Improvement Guide

October 2012

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTHCARE



AUSTRALIA REPORT MAP  
Produced by the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group (AUSLIG)  
A business unit of the Department of Administrative Services  
PO Box 2, Belconnen ACT 2616 Telephone: 1800 800 173  
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Populated places:  
 ● Greater than 1 000 000  
 ● 100 000 - 1 000 000  
 ● 20 000 - 100 000  
 ● Less than 20 000  
 Population figures based on 1991 Census data

HYPSOMETRIC  
 2000 1500  
 Heights in metres



# WHY Patient Blood Management



*“PBM aims to **improve clinical outcomes** by avoiding unnecessary exposure to blood and blood products. Decisions on whether to transfuse should be carefully considered, taking into account the full range of available therapies, and balancing the evidence for efficacy and improved clinical outcome against the potential risks.”*



*“PBM **improves patient outcomes** by improving the patient’s medical and surgical management in ways that boost and conserve the patient’s own blood. As a consequence of better management, patients usually require fewer transfusions... thus avoiding transfusion-associated complications.”*

**AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION  
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE**  
National Priorities

*PBM is a multidisciplinary approach that promotes **appropriate care** for patients and reduces exposure to unnecessary blood transfusions.*



# European Union



## Core Project Team

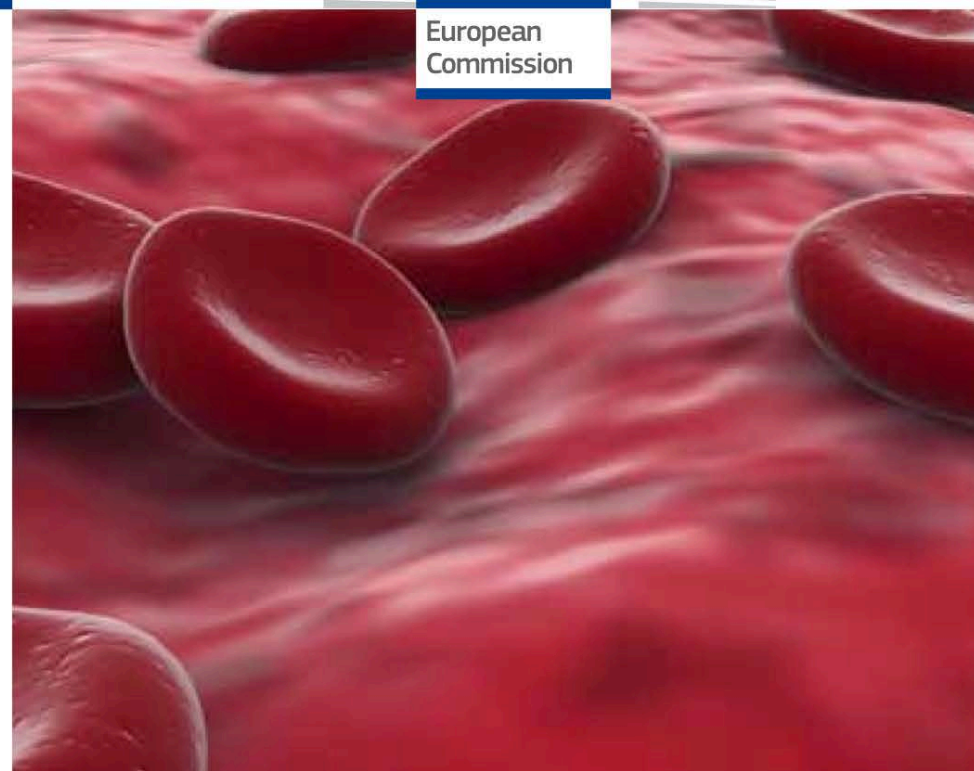
- Hans Gombotz, Linz
- Axel Hofmann, Zurich
- Kai Zacharowski, Frankfurt
- Günter Schreier, Graz
- Peter Kastner, Graz

## Expert Panel

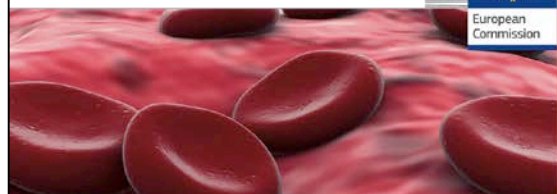
- Philippe Van der Linden, Brussels
- Donat Spahn, Zurich
- Peter Rehak, Graz
- Astrid Nørgaard, Copenhagen
- Shannon Farmer, Perth
- Jens Meier, Linz
- Johann Kurz, Vienna

## Teaching Hospitals

- Rigshospitalet / University Hospital Copenhagen  
Astrid Nørgaard
- University Hospital Centre, Zagreb  
Branka Golubić-Čepulić
- Hospital Universitario de Santa Maria, Lisbon  
Hugo Pinto Vilela,  
Lucindo Ormonde
- Medical University of Vienna / Vienna General Hospital  
Klaus Markstaller
- Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt  
Kai Zacharowski



# EU-PBM



# EU-PBM

## European Patient Blood Management

Patient safety is of primary concern to the European Commission. An important element related to patient safety is the safe and adequate use of substances derived from human blood. In autumn 2013, the Commission launched a tender on "Good practices in the field of blood transfusion" via its Consumers, Health and Food Executive Agency (Chafea).

### Definition and Rationale of Patient Blood Management

PBM is a multidisciplinary concept that primarily focuses on patient safety by avoiding and/or treating anaemia, minimising blood loss and bleeding and optimising the physiological reserve of anaemia. Studies have shown that this comprehensive strategy significantly minimises the use of allogeneic blood products and therefore reduces their adverse effects on patient outcome. It has also been demonstrated that PBM saves costs for health care systems.

### Aims

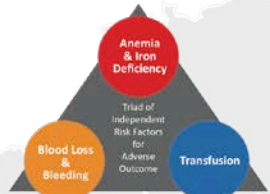
- The aims of the project are to
- study and map blood use for different medical disciplines
  - identify and map local and national differences in PBM strategies and blood utilisation,
  - identify good practices in PBM and
  - develop an EU guide on good practices for PBM based on the three pillars PBM concept
  - implementing a PBM pilot program in 5 European teaching hospitals

### Implementation Strategy



### Teaching Hospitals (Coordinator)

- Rigshospitalet / University Hospital Copenhagen (Astrid Nergaard)
- University Hospital Centre, Zagreb (Branka Golubic-Cepulic)
- Hospital Universitario de Santa Maria, Lisbon (Lucindo Ormonde)
- Medical University of Vienna / Vienna General Hospital (Klaus Markstaller)
- University Hospital Frankfurt (Kai Zacharowski)



Adapted from Farmer SL, et al. Best Pract Res Clin Anaesthesiol, 2015, 27(1): p 43-58



Three Pillars of Patient Blood Management

### Core Project Team

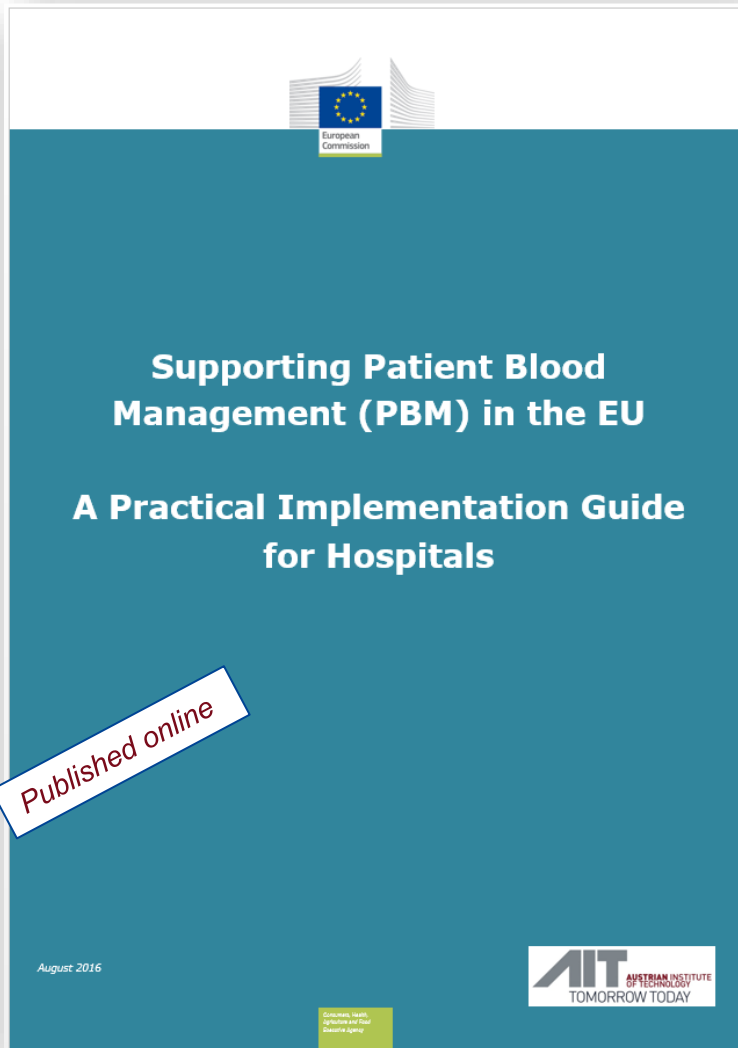
- Hans Gombotz, Linz
- Axel Hofmann, Zurich
- Kai Zacharowski, Frankfurt
- Gunter Schreier, Graz
- Peter Kastner, Graz



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 EC eMail: Chafea@ec.europa.eu  
 Website: www.europe-pbm.eu

# PBM - Implementation Guide for Hospitals



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety  
Directorate B - Health systems, medical products and innovation  
Unit B.4 - Medical products: quality, safety, innovation

## Authors

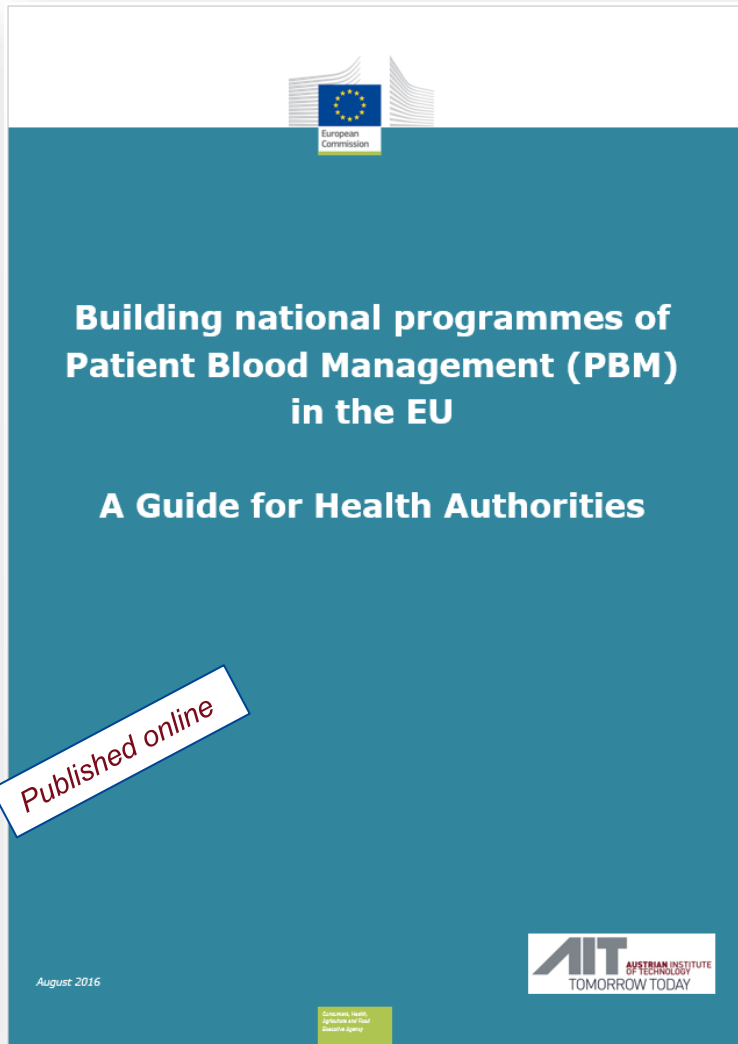
Hans Gombotz, Axel Hofmann,  
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# PBM - Guide for Health Authorities



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety  
Directorate B - Health systems, medical products and innovation  
Unit B.4 - Medical products: quality, safety, innovation

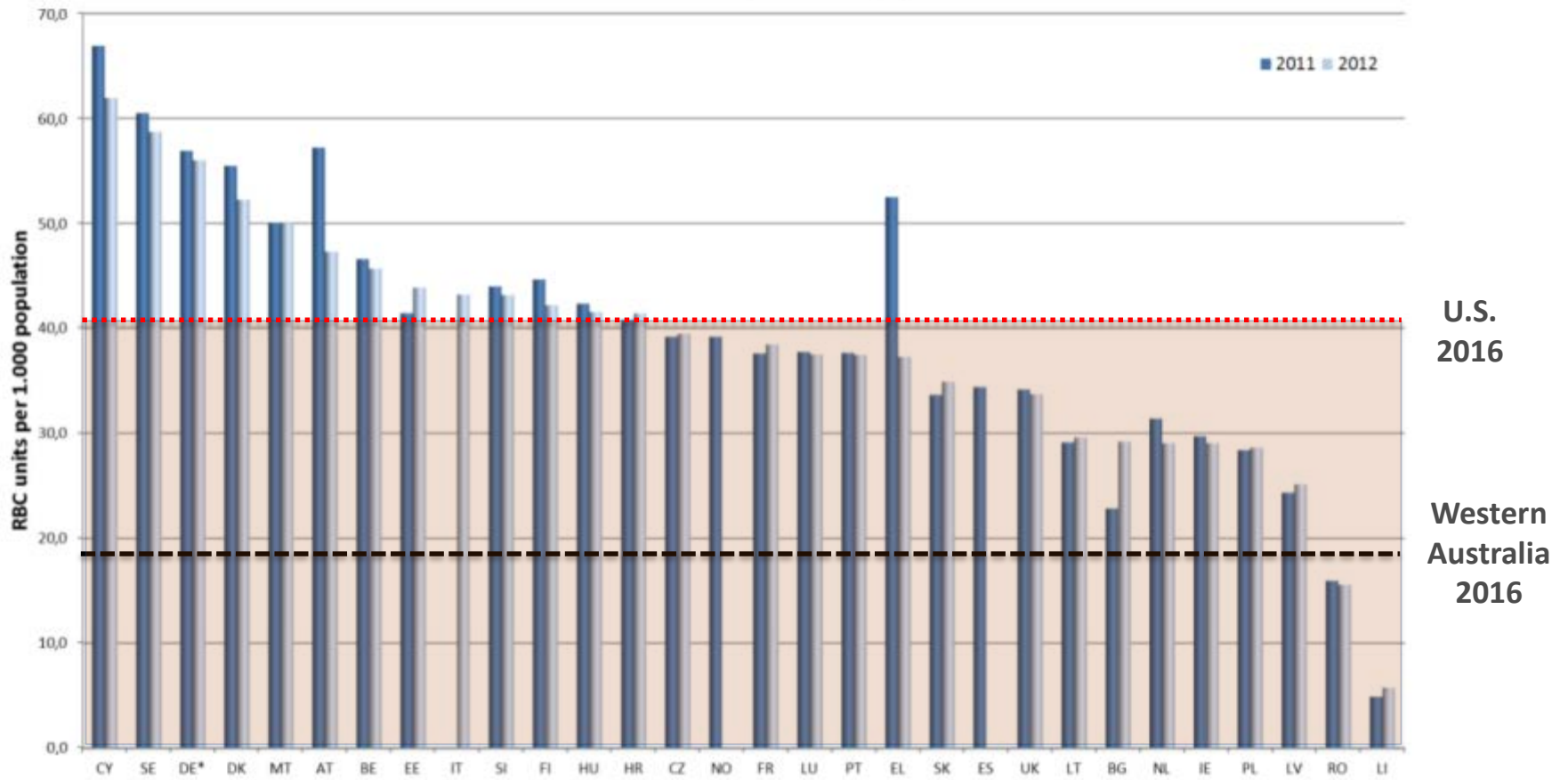
## Authors

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[www.ait.ac.at](http://www.ait.ac.at) / [www.europe-pbm.eu](http://www.europe-pbm.eu)

# RBC units issued in EU member states, U.S. and WA (per 1,000 population)



## Gross cost estimate related to the missed opportunity of PBM for the US, EU and Australia (2011)

	Units of packed blood components	Acquisition cost (US\$)	Activity based cost (ABC) multiplier	Activity based cost/unit transfused (US\$)	Total activity based cost (US\$)	Additional cost associated w/matched transfused patients
United States	19'836'000			867.00	17'206'964'253	
European Union	28'080'000			564.00	15'856'494'000	
Australia	1'094'464			767.50	840'005'091	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19'836'000</b>			<b>867</b>	<b>33'903'463'344</b>	<b>151'471'565'118</b>



**US\$185 Billion**

*Estimate by Hofmann A.*

*Trentino K.M., et al., Increased hospital costs associated with red blood cell transfusion. Transfusion 2015*  
*Shander A. et al. Activity-based costs of plasma transfusions in medical and surgical inpatients at a US hospital. Vox Sang 2016*  
*Shander A. et al. Activity-based costs of blood transfusions in surgical patients at four hospitals. Transfusion 2010*  
*Hofmann A. et al. Economic considerations on transfusion medicine and patient blood management. Best Pract Res Clin Anaesthesiol 2013*



# Conclusion

Costs (\$)



**BJA**  
British Journal of Anaesthesia

Volume 108, Number 6, June 2012

British Journal of Anaesthesia 108 (6): 889-92 (2012)  
doi:10.1093/bja/aes166

**EDITORIAL**

**Patient blood management is a win-win: a wake-up call**

D. R. Spahn<sup>1\*</sup>, O. M. Theusinger<sup>2</sup> and A. Hofmann<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University, Perth, Australia

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→ Outcome

**1st Pillar**

Optimise  
red cell  
mass

**2nd Pillar**

Minimise  
blood loss  
& bleeding

**3rd Pillar**

Harness &  
optimize  
physio-  
logical  
reserve of  
anemia

Prime  
Quadrant



# Summary

- The global health care crisis is real
- The grey tsunami is aggravating the crisis
- The current imperative is to improve productivity
- The cost-effectiveness approach guides to productivity improvements
- The 3-Pillar-PBM concept targets the burden of anaemia, blood loss and transfusion
- PBM significantly improves outcome while lowering cost of
  - allogeneic blood product consumption
  - transfusion related clinical services (activity based cost)
  - prevented complications
- The implementation of PBM is increasingly requested by national health authorities



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OF HOSPITAL MANAGERS

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