How aggressive can passive antibodies be?

Clare Milkins
Scheme Manager
UK NEQAS (BTLP)
SHOT WEG

What is passive?

"Inert or quiescent"



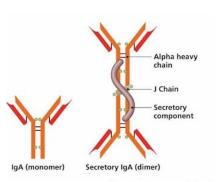
"Produced or caused by an <u>external</u> agency"

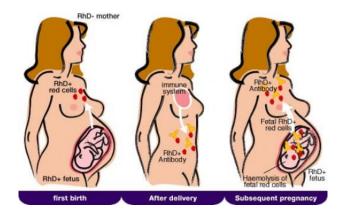
"Receiving or subjected to an action without responding or initiating an action in return"



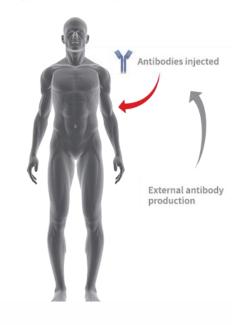
What is a passive antibody?

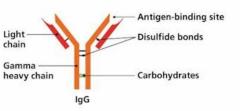






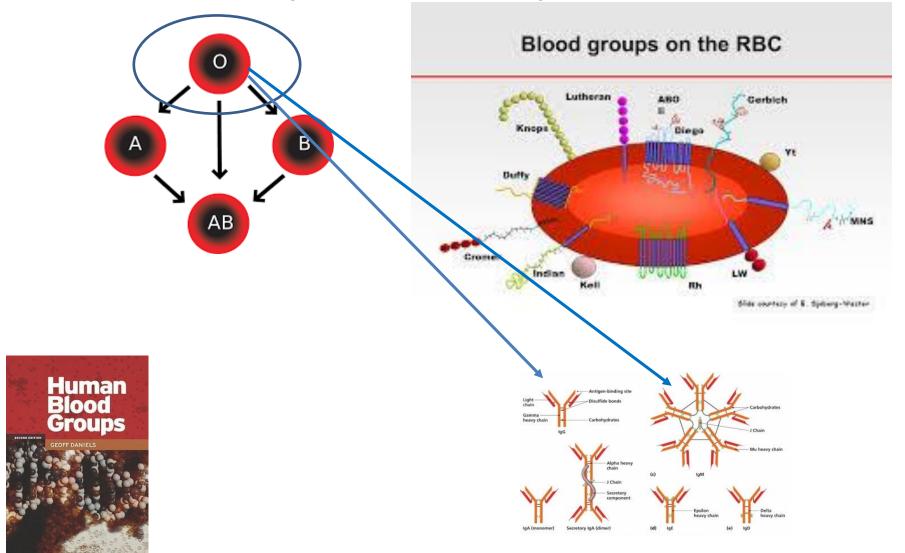
Passive immunization







Passive antibodies given with plasma components or products





Standard donations are screened for red cell antibodies :

Negative at 1 in 50 for red cells Negative at 1 in 10 for plasma



Group O platelet donations are screened for high titre anti-A and -B

Negative at 1 in 128 by saline agglutination

What's the risk?

Self-limiting

Usually mild

Highest Risk Scenarios

High titre

High plasma volume

Small blood volume





How can it happen?



Deliberate action due to clinical need

Unknowingly due to 'contaminated' plasma products (IVIg)





Accidental – human error





ABO incompatible platelets

20 cases reported between 2006/7 and 2015

19 due to anti-A (O to A)

1 due to anti-B (A to AB)

7 cases major morbidity

Intravascular haemolysis

Impaired renal function

ITU admission



Seven found to be high-titre when tested retrospectively

5 by IAT: titre 2048 to 20,000

3 by DRT: titre 1024

Only 3 cases since 2008 (introduction of standard controls)

High-dose intravenous immunoglobulin (100g over 2-4 days)

4 cases since 2011

Massive haemolysis

The IVIg may be found to have high titre anti-A



Case study from 2012

Group A MDS patient, with neutropenic sepsis and a subdural haematoma

Received group B pooled platelets and highdose IVIg (2x80g in one day)

2 days later

Red plasma
Positive DAT – anti-A eluted
Hb fell by 50g/L to 43g/L
Creatinine 600 µmol/L
LDH 1984 U/L
Bilirubin 118 µmol/L



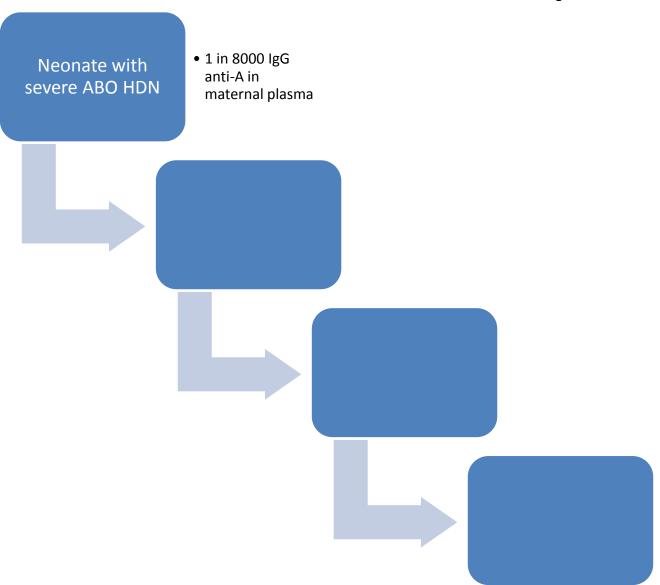
Admitted to ITU Required renal dialysis Subsequently died

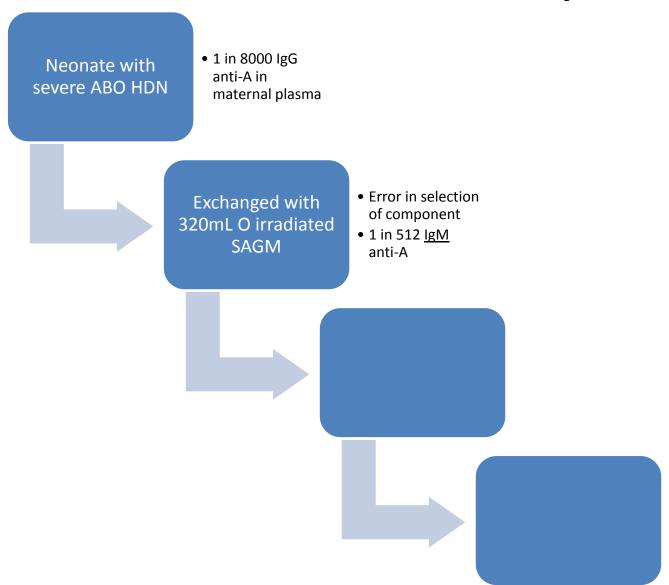
Incompatible FFP (IBCT and Never Event)

year	No. Cases	Patient group	FFP given	Cause
2015	2	Baby – group unknown	0	O neg red cells given
2014	4	Trauma - MHP	0	3 units FFP thawed for previous patient
2013	3	Emergency	0	Group O red cells given and post transfusion group appeared to be O by immediate spin
2012	3	?	0	Wrong blood in tube

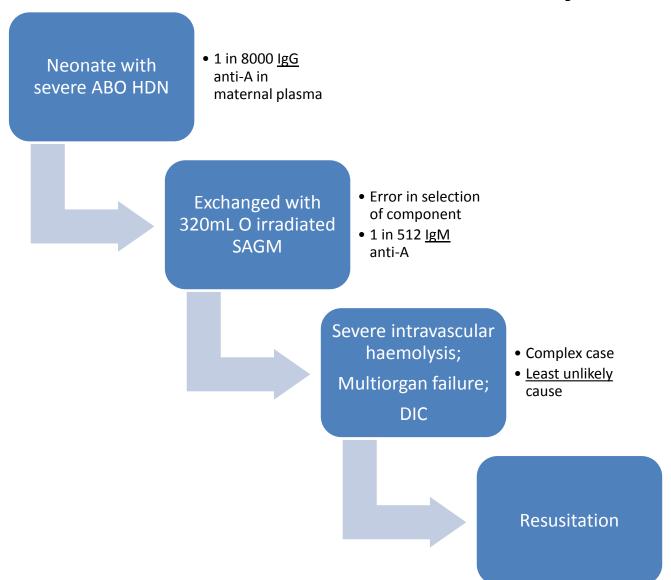
Consider risk of giving large volumes of group O plasma following WBIT if patient appears to be group O







• 1 in 8000 IgG Neonate with anti-A in severe ABO HDN maternal plasma • Error in selection Exchanged with of component 320mL O irradiated • 1 in 512 IgM **SAGM** anti-A Severe intravascular haemolysis; • Complex case Least unlikely Multiorgan failure; cause DIC Resusitation



In Conclusion



