

# Highlights of the 2013 SHOT Report

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SERIOUS HAZARDS OF TRANSFUSION

**SHOT**

# What is SHOT?

- Serious Hazards of Transfusion (Est 1996)
- Collect data on serious adverse reactions and events related to transfusion
- Data reviewed by transfusion experts to produce Annual SHOT Report
- Participation is professionally mandated
  - a requirement of quality, inspection and accreditation organisations
- Small core team based in Manchester

# SHOT aims

- **IMPROVE** standards of transfusion practice by **EDUCATING** users on transfusion hazards and their prevention
- **AID** in the production of clinical guidelines for the use of blood components
- **INFORM** policy within transfusion services

# Haemovigilance in the UK

## MHRA

### Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency

- Competent Authority for the **BSQR 2005**
  - QMS in blood establishments and hospital blood banks.
- Competent Authority for the **Medicines Act 1968**
- Competent Authority for the **Medical Devices Regulations 2008**
- **STATUTORY** reporting

## SHOT

### Serious Hazards of Transfusion

- Confidential enquiry
- Serious adverse reactions/events AND near misses all of which occur in **BOTH** a laboratory and **CLINICAL** environment.
- **PROFESSIONALLY MANDATED** reporting

# SHOT headlines 2013

- Participation includes 99.5% of NHS Trusts and Health Boards across the UK
- 2751 submitted reports were analysed
- 9 ABO incompatible red cell transfusions
- 22 deaths where the transfusion was causal or contributory
- 143 reports associated with major morbidity

## **Key Recommendation**

**All ABO incompatible transfusions to be included as 'never events'**

**ABO incompatible transfusions may be fatal and are absolutely preventable. The two thirds that do not result in harm should be included as reportable events**

# Mortality/Morbidity data 2013

**Acute transfusion reactions** = leading cause of major morbidity

*(76 reports - (33 anaphylaxis, 22 severe febrile, 5 hypotensive, 6 severe mixed)*

**Delayed transfusions** = 5 deaths (*1 certain, 4 possible*) & 7 major morbidities (*3 cardiac arrests*)

**Transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO)**  
= 12 deaths (5 probable, 7 possible)

46/96 (**47.9%**) of TACO cases had serious outcomes

## **Key Recommendation**

**Don't give two without review: Transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO) is a significant hazard, particularly when elderly or other patients at risk receive several units of blood without review and a check Hb level**

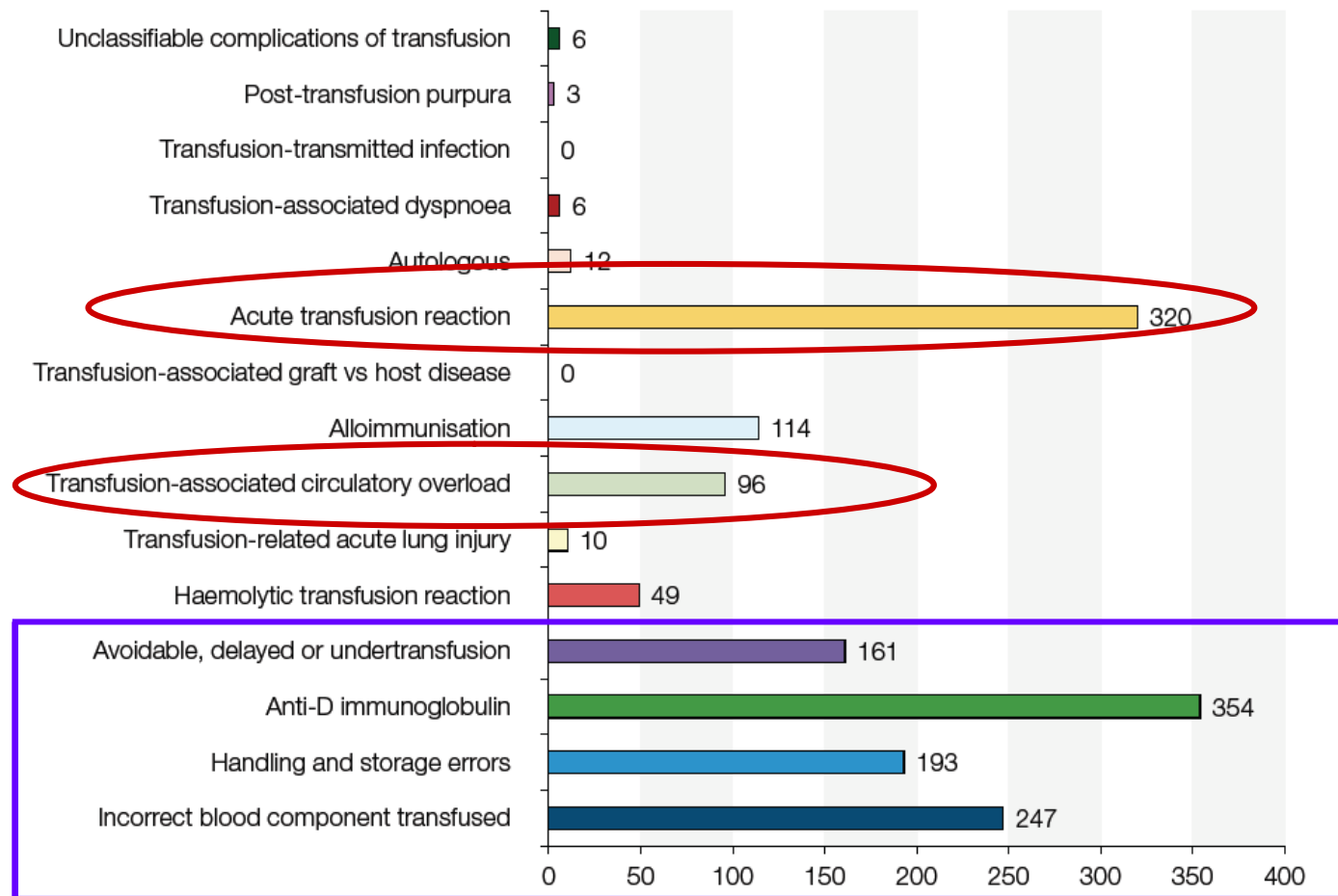
**\*advice inspired by a campaign devised by NHSBT's**

**Patient Blood Management team**



# Reports analysed 2013 n=1571

\*excluding near miss and right blood, right patient



# Blood Safety v Transfusion Safety

Transfusion transmitted infections	Risk of infected donation entering blood supply
HBV	1 in 1.3 million
HCV	1 in 28.6 million
HIV	1 in 7.1 million

SHOT REPORTS	Risk per component issued
Total risk of death	1 in 125,000
Total risk of major morbidity	1 in 19,157
Risk of ABO incompatible red cells	1 in 263,157
Risk of wrong component	1 in 48,309
Risk of specific requirements not met	1 in 14,514

# Reports analysed 2013

(excluding near miss and right blood, right patient)

Unclassifiable complications of transfusion 6  
Post-transfusion purpura 3  
Transfusion-transmitted infection 0

n=184

**2135 (77.6%)**

Transfusion-related acute lung injury 10

Haemolytic transfusion reaction 49

Avoidable, delayed or undertransfusion 161

Anti-D immunoglobulin 354

Handling and storage errors 193

Incorrect blood component transfused 247

n=955

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400

# Specific Requirements Not Met (SRNM)

- Much more than just CMV- or Irradiated
  - Need to match antigen profile (for multi-transfused haemoglobinopathy patients who develop antibodies)
  - Irradiated for Haematological disorders and purine analogue drugs
  - Pathogen inactivated non-UK plasma for patients born on or after 1.1.96 (MeBlue FFP or Solvent Detergent FFP)
  - Kell (-) red cells for women of childbearing age
  - CMV(-) for ROUTINE transfusions in pregnancy
- Clinicians ordering blood components unaware of the requirements - maybe unaware even of possibility of additional specification
- Failure to inform lab / update computer record / transfer of care

# Other Errors

- **WCT** – Wrong Component Transfused
  - Component given to wrong patient
  - Given wrong component (platelets instead of red cells)
  - Incompatible units given
- **HSE** – Handling & Storage Errors
  - Gave blood out of temperature control
  - Transfused for too long (>5 hours)
- **ADU**
  - **Avoidable** transfusion / avoidable use of O Neg
  - **Delay** in transfusion causing harm to the patient
  - **Under**transfusion causing harm to the patient
- **RBRP** - Right Blood Right Patient
  - Component is correct for the patient, but ID or labelling errors

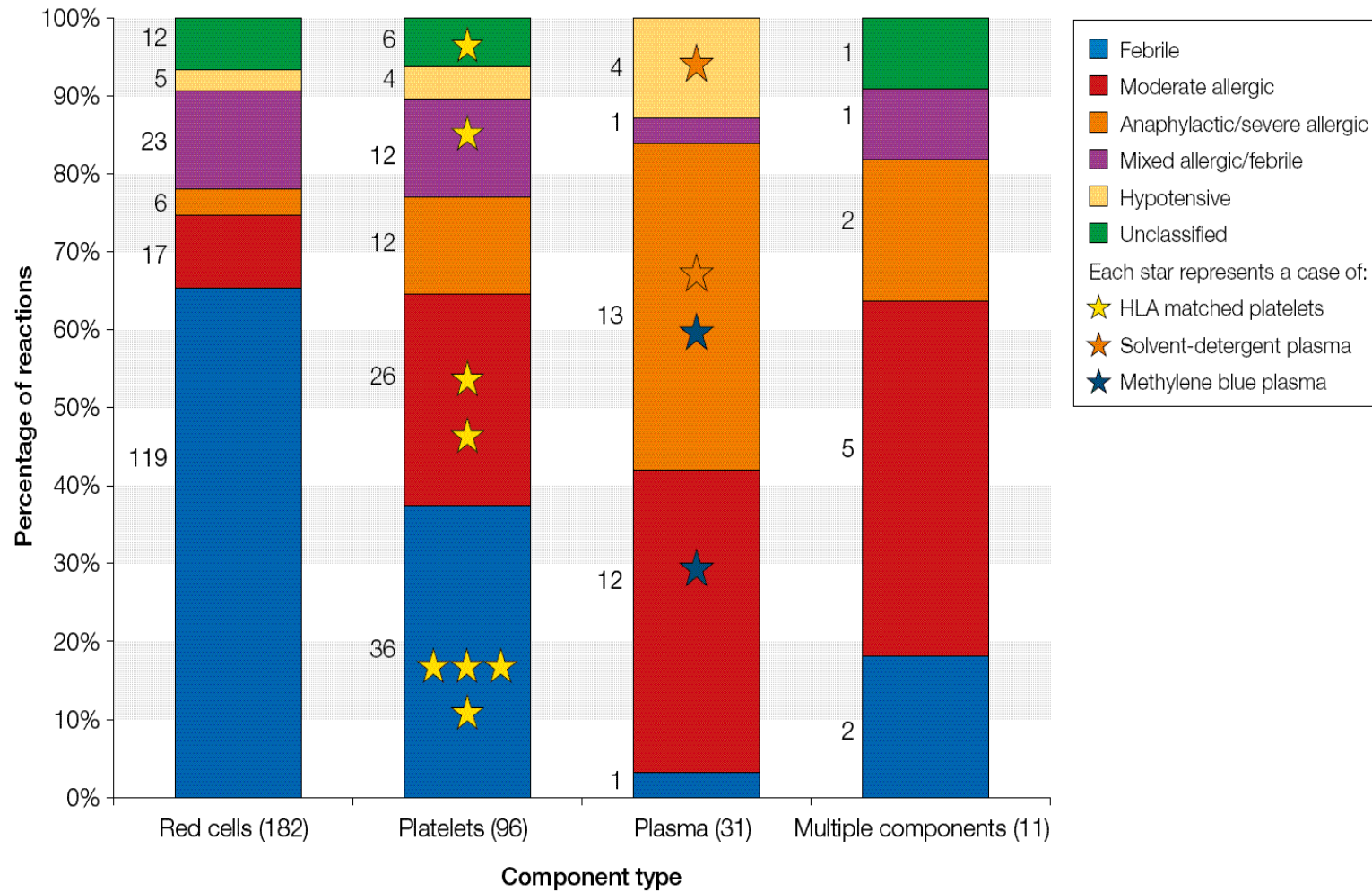
# Physiological Reactions

- Transfusion reactions may have many overlapping symptoms and signs with varying severity
- Fever, chills, rigor, myalgia, nausea, urticaria, itching, swelling, respiratory symptoms.....etc.
- Advise patients to report any adverse events and seek advice if they feel unwell

## **Key Recommendation**

**Patients transfused as day cases or outpatients must be given printed advice and a 24 hour contact telephone number and warned to report any adverse symptoms or complications**

# ATR – reaction by component type 2013





# Unrecognised DHTR at home

- An elderly woman with myelodysplastic syndrome received 2 units of red cells on the haematology day unit with no ill effect.
- Eight days later she experienced loin pain and passed black urine, which continued for 5 days.
- The primary care team prescribed antibiotics, but did not take a urine sample or report this to the haematologist.
- It was not until 3 weeks later, when the patient returned to the day unit for an appointment that a DHTR (due to anti-c) was diagnosed.

## HDU admission in patient at increased risk of TACO after transfusion as a day case

- A 78 year old female with myeloma, weight 56 kg, was transfused 3 units of red cells as a day case despite being at increased risk of developing TACO (renal impairment, hypoalbuminaemia, age  $\geq 70$  years, low bodyweight).
- She developed fluid overload and pulmonary oedema with hypertension and hypoxia before the end of the third unit. She initially responded to diuretic and was sent home by a junior doctor, but was unable to lie flat all night because of shortness of breath.
- She was readmitted, to the HDU, within 24 hours with pulmonary oedema and an ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI).

# Avoidable transfusion

- 75 yr old man visited at home by GP for unilateral swelling of the leg (Hb 124 g/L three weeks before)
- GP takes sample into syringe and walks 10 mins back to surgery to decant into sample tube
- Hb 76 g/L, so patient (no symptoms of anaemia) admitted overnight as an emergency by on call GP
- Repeat Hb and crossmatch sample at 0640, result available at 0700, Hb 114 g/L
- Transfusion started at 0955 without results review and stopped at 1120 (after 100 mL)

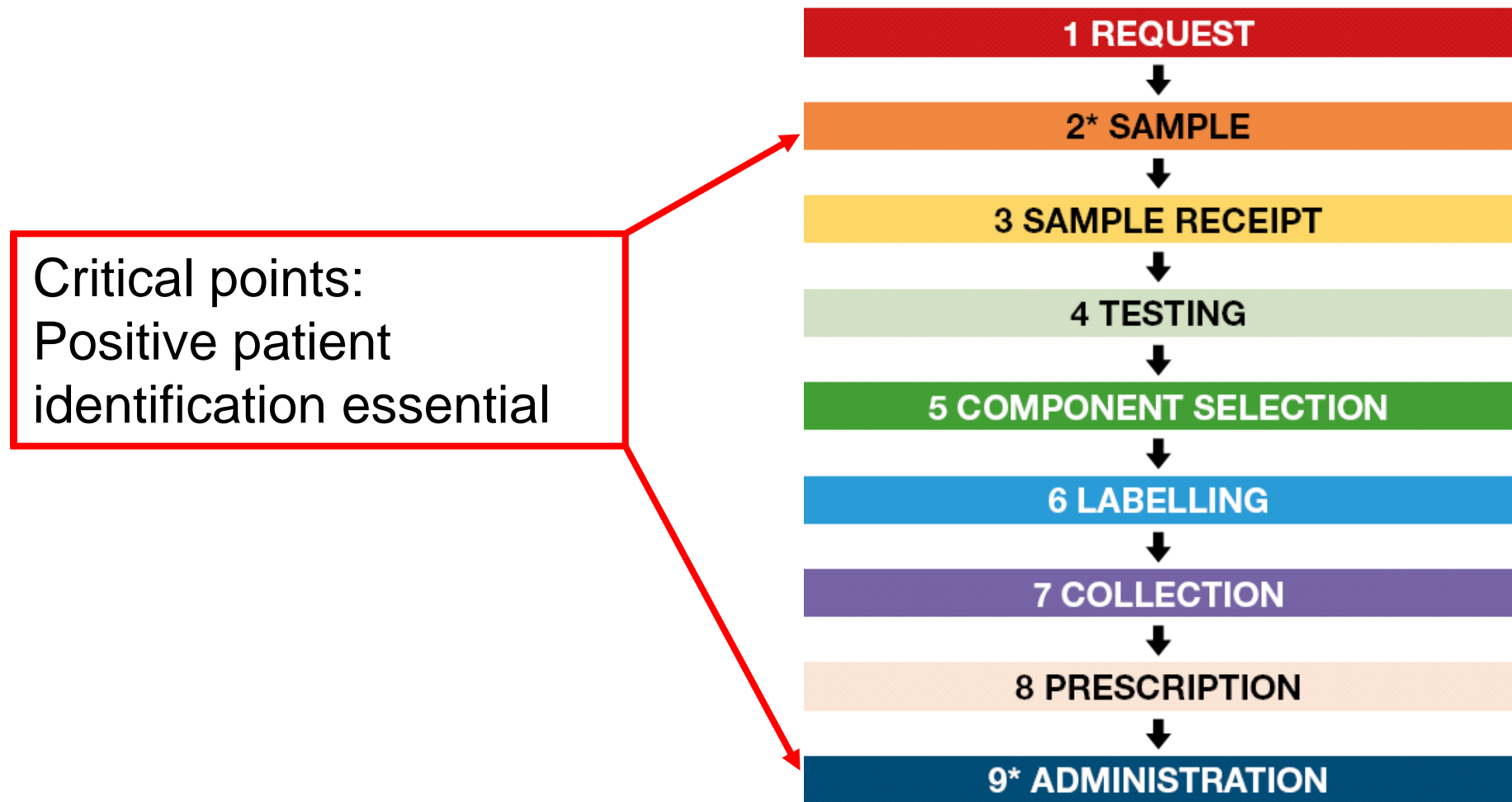
# Acute transfusion reaction

- One hour and 20 minutes into a transfusion of red blood cells, the patient developed a 2.2 degree rise in temperature, severe rigors, tachycardia, vomiting, chest pain and a decrease in oxygen saturation
- The rigors prevented measurement of the blood pressure
- The urine was positive for haemoglobin but the patient was known to have haematuria
- The implicated unit was negative on culture and laboratory tests were negative

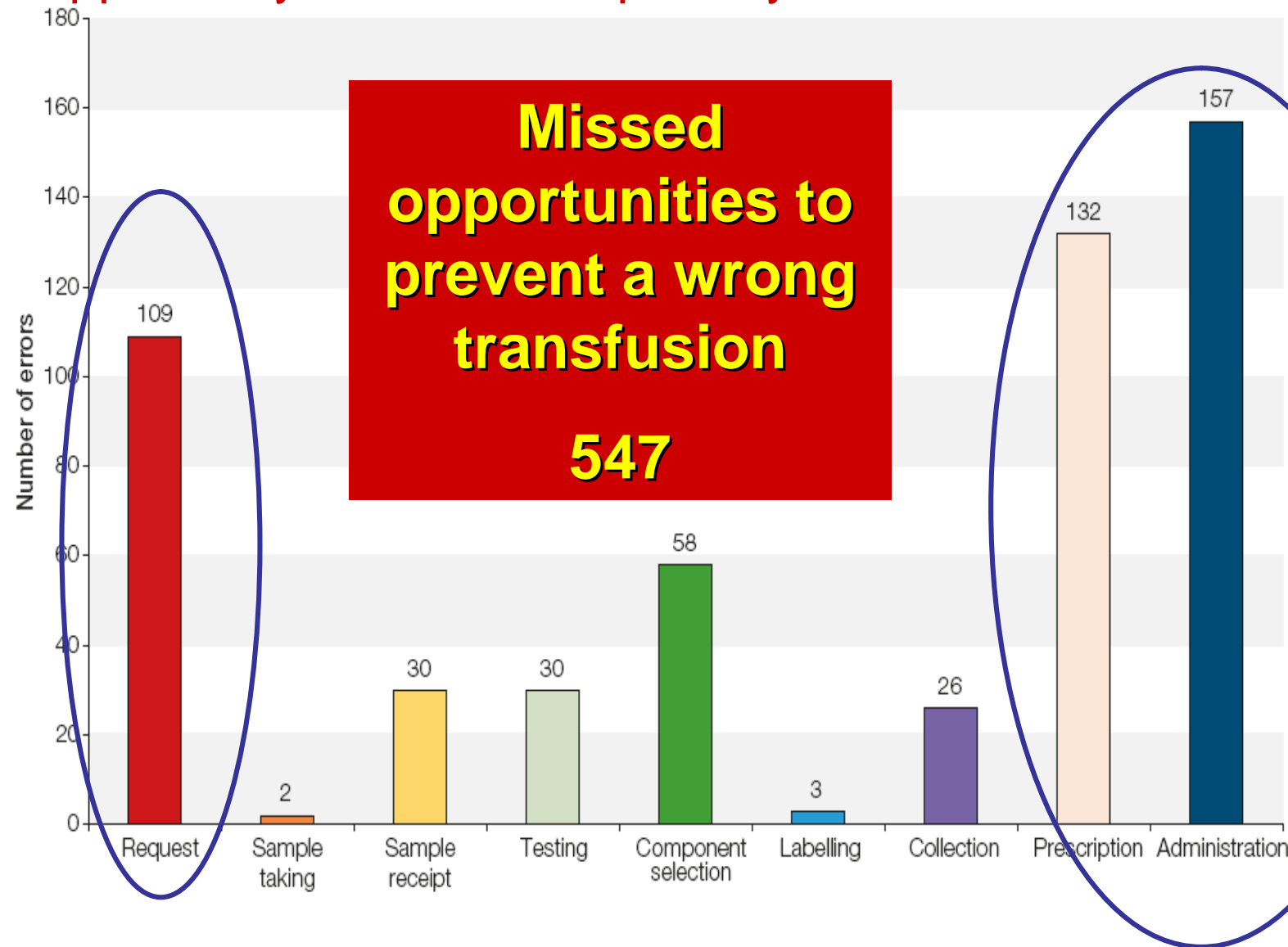
## Lack of component knowledge leads to the incorrect component type being transfused

- The patient was prescribed two units of platelets before surgery. Red cells were also reserved because he had irregular red cell antibodies.
- The staff gave two units of red cells thinking that the 'optimal additive solution' meant that the bag contained platelets.
- They tried to give each bag of red cells over 30 minutes as this is the time stated on the prescription for transfusion of platelets.
- The error was detected by a doctor when taking a blood sample to measure the platelet increment.

# SHOT analysis diagram



Steps in the process where an error was made or an opportunity to detect the primary error was missed



## **Key Recommendation**

**Process mapping, and audit with  
consideration of human factors to  
design out medical errors**



# Additional Information

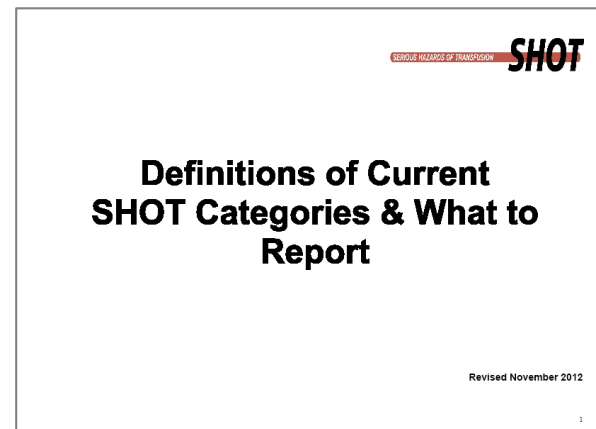
Following documents available on website to help with reporting:

[www.shotuk.org](http://www.shotuk.org)

- SHOT reporting definitions
- SHOT reporting toolkit
- Clinical Lessons
- Laboratory Lessons

Also available:

- SHOT reports
- SHOT summaries
- Supplemental data



# Acknowledgements

- YOU for reporting, and listening
- SHOT Team in Manchester
- SHOT Steering Group and Working Expert (Writing) Group