## Bacterial Contamination in Platelets <br> Canadian Blood Services - Update

Sandra Ramirez-Arcos ISBT TTID WP Meeting June 17, 2017

## Bacterial testing -automated BacT/ALERT ${ }^{\circledR}$ 3D culture system

| Routine Platelet Screening | Quality Control Sterility Testing |
| :---: | :---: |
| Screening of $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ platelet products | Screening of $1 \%$ products (minimum 10 units) on a monthly basis |
| Screening is done $\mathbf{2 4}$ to $\mathbf{3 0}$ hours post-collection | Screening is done at outdate (6-7 day old platelets) |
| Sampling: 8 and 10 mL of PCs inoculated into aerobic culture bottles | Sampling: 8 and 10 mL of PCs inoculated into aerobic and anaerobic culture bottles |
| Incubation in the BacT/ALERT ${ }^{\circledR}$ 3D system for a maximum of 6 days | Incubation in the BacT/ALERT ${ }^{\circledR}$ 3D system for a maximum of 6 days |
| Once sampling is performed and other tests are completed, platelets are put into inventory | Once sampling is performed and other tests are completed, platelets are discarded |
| Bacterial screening of PCs at CBS is not a pre-release test |  |

Confirmed positive cultures - Routine platelet screening (2010-2016)

| PC Component ( N ) | Species identified |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gram positive bacteria (N) | Gram negative bacteria (N) |
| Apheresis PCs | CoNS (1) | Escherichia coli (3) |
| (18 out of 186,737) | Streptococcus spp (8) | Serratia marcescens (3) |
| Rate/10,000 $=0.96$ | Corynebacterium spp (1) |  |
|  | Bacillus (1) |  |
|  | Enterococcus faecium (1) |  |
| Buffy coat pooled PCs | CoNS (33) | Morganella morganii (1) |
| (57 out of 601,988 tested) | Streptococcus spp (9) | Serratia marcescens (1) |
| Rate/10,000 $=0.94$ | Bacillus spp (5) | Pseudomonas aeruginosa (1) |
|  | Staphylococcus aureus (4) | Citrobacter koseri (1) |
|  | Actinomyces (1) |  |
|  | Enterococcus faecium (1) |  |

## Residual risk

$>$ Bacteria captured in outdated products (2010-2016)-0.8-0.9/1,000 - All Gram positive bacteria
$>$ Transfusion reactions with platelets that tested negative: 554,666 platelets transfused (2010-2016):
$>$ Rate septic transfusion reactions $\boldsymbol{\sim} \mathbf{1 / 1 0 0 , 0 0 0}$
$>$ Rate fatalities $\sim \mathbf{1 / 5 0 0 , 0 0 0}$
> All Gram positive bacteria

| Date | Component | PC age (days) | Organism |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| $2010-03$ | buffy coat | $\mathbf{5}$ | Coagulase negative Staphylococcus |
| $2010-07$ | apheresis | $\mathbf{5}$ | Coagulase negative Staphylococcus |
| $2011-11$ | buffy coat | $\mathbf{5}$ | Staphylococcus aureus |
| $2012-01$ | apheresis | $\mathbf{3}$ | Staphylococcus aureus |
| $2014-09$ | buffy coat | $\mathbf{5}$ | Staphylococcus epidermidis (fatal) |
| $2016-05$ | buffy coat | $\mathbf{4}$ | Staphylococcus aureus |

Ramirez-Arcos et al. Transfusion 2017, In press

## Extending platelet storage with new testing algorithm

|  | Current | Upcoming |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sampling time post- <br> collection | $24-30$ | $\geq 36 \mathrm{~h}$ |
| Volume | $8-10 \mathrm{ml}$ | $16-20 \mathrm{ml}(\mathbf{4 0 ~ m l}$ for double <br> apheresis $)$ <br> Aerobic and anaerobic |
| Bottles Only aerobic <br> Post-inoculation <br> quarantine None | $\geq 6 \mathrm{~h}$ |  |

## Spiking study to test the new algorithm - Protocol

Bacterial suspension (CFU/mL)

> (CFU/mL)
> on Day 0

## Aerobic Bacteria:

Staphylococcus epidermidis
Staphylococcus aureus
Serratia marcescens
Klebsiella pneumoniae

Inoculation of 8-10 mL into culture BPA and BPN culture bottles Sampling to determine bacterial concentration by plating

Anaerobic Bacterium:

## Spiking study to test the new algorithm - Results



What about pathogen inactivation?

## Pathogen inactivation and biofilms

S. epidermidis $10^{6} \mathrm{CFU} / \mathrm{ml}$

Whole blood


Control


Taha et al, Vox Sanguin 2016, DOI: 10.1111/vox. 12427

## Summary

> Platelet screening for bacterial contamination has had a positive impact on safety, likely preventing transfusion reactions
> Missed detection during routine platelet screening is evidenced during sterility testing of expired platelets and septic transfusion reactions
> Measures to enhance platelet safety
> Improving testing algorithm with 7day platelets - delay sampling
> Pathogen inactivation?
> Testing at the hospital end with a rapid method?

Questions?

## Breakout Session Bacteria Subgroup Agenda

| Topic | Presenter |
| :--- | :--- |
| Platelet storage medium and transfusion transmitted bacterial <br> infections | Aukje Kreuger, Sanquin <br> Research, Leiden |
| Rapid Detection of Bacterial Contaminants in Platelet Components: <br> Comparison of Time to Detection between the BacT/ALERT® 3D <br> and the BacT/ALERT ® VIRTUOTM Systems | Parampal Deol, bioMérieux |
| Update on the ISBT TTID study on establishment of bacterial <br> reference strains for RBCs | Marcel Prax, Paul-Ehrlich <br> Institute |
| Mirasol System for Whole Blood: Update on Bacterial Reduction and <br> Development Plan | Heather Pidcoke, <br> TerumoBCT |
| Bacteria inactivation capacity of the THERAFLEX UV-Platelets <br> system: systematic investigation using the WHO Bacteria Reference <br> Strains | Alex Seltsam, German Red <br> Cross |
| Bacterial inactivation claims in the context of sterility. A follow up on <br> the NBL PI validation study with the INTERCEPT system | Adonis Stassinopoulos, <br> Cerus |
| Discussion - Potential collaborative studies, new initiatives | All |

## THANK YOU

be nice to bacteria...


