



**American  
Red Cross**

# **Bacterial Contamination**

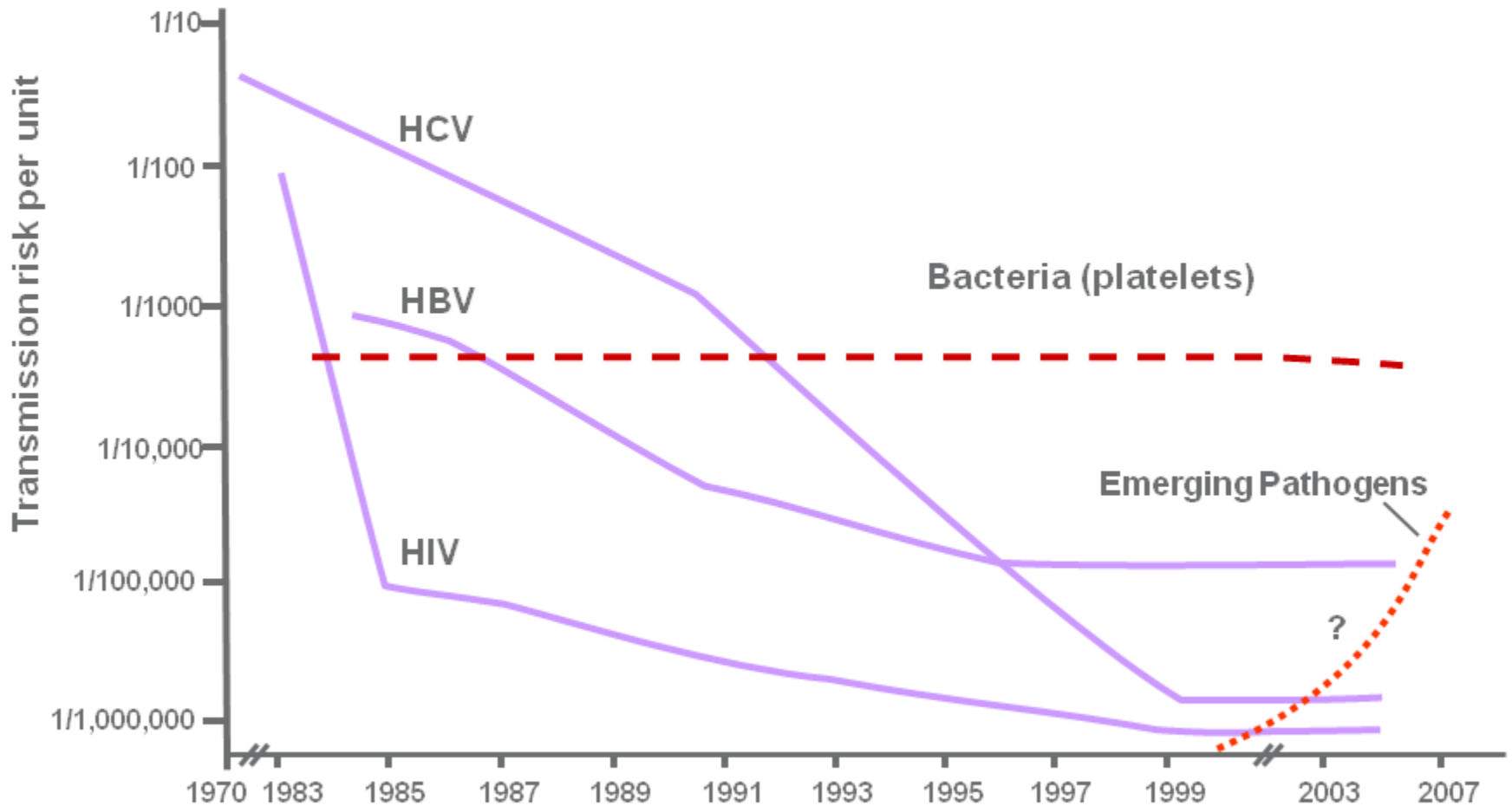
Richard Benjamin MD PhD  
Chief Medical Officer

*Kuala Lumpur, December 2013*

# Conflicts

- Fenwal Scientific Advisory Board
- Cerus Scientific Advisory Board
- Immucor Scientific Advisory Board
- TerumoBCT Honoraria
- Verax Biomedical Honoraria

# Infectious Disease Risks from Transfusion



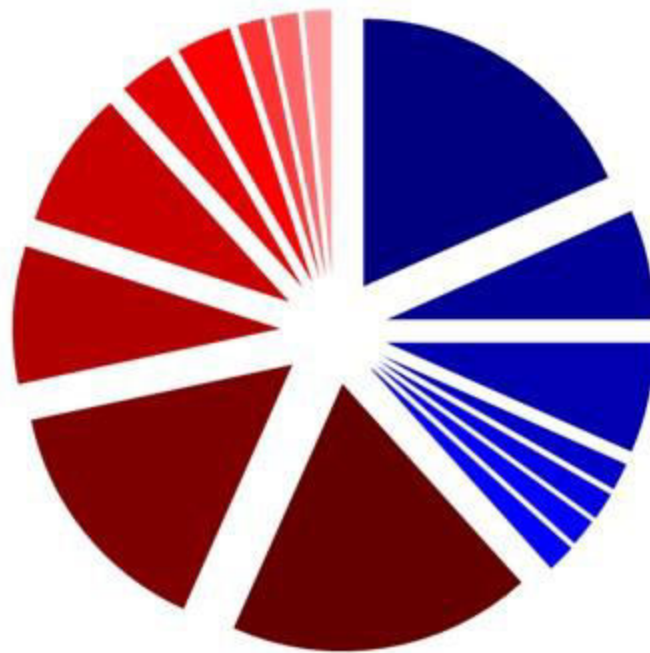
# Prevalence of Transfusion-related Sepsis

	Country	Apheresis Platelets	Whole Blood Platelets
<b>Before Bacterial Culture</b>			
Ness et al	US	1:13,423	1:14,925
Perez et al	France	1:31,446	1:13,927
Kuehnert et al	US	1:101,010	1:94,340

# US FDA Platelets Fatalities 1995-2004

(before apheresis platelet culture screening)

Fatalities ~1:250,000 transfusions



- S. epidermidis
- S. aureus
- Streptococcus spp.
- C. perfringens
- Enterococcus spp.
- Bacillus spp.
- Gram + rods
- Klebsiella spp.
- E. coli
- S. marcescens
- Enterobacter spp.
- P. aeruginosa
- Salmonella spp.
- Morganella spp.
- P. multocida
- Gram negative rods

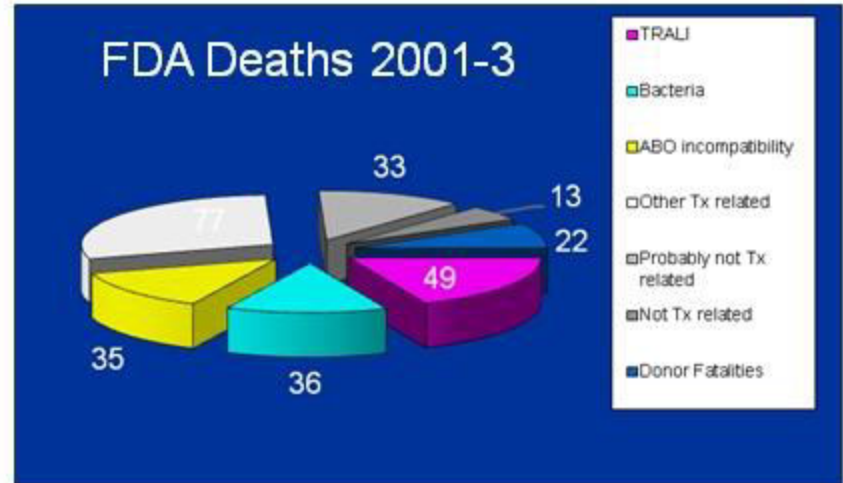
*37 of 60 (62 %) fatalities were caused by rapid-growing Gram negative enteric organisms*

# Active versus Passive Surveillance for Bacterial Contamination

Bacterial culture at issue 1991-2006

Surveillance	Active (n=102,998)	Passive (n=135,885)	Odds Ratio (95% C.I.)
Bacterial contamination	50 1:2,060	2 1:67,942	32.0 (8.0-135.0)
Clinical Reactions	16 1:6,437	2 1:67,942	10.6 (2.4-45.9)
Death	1	1	1.3 (0.01-21.1)

# Bacterial Sepsis



## AABB Standard 5.1.5.1 (first added in March 2004)

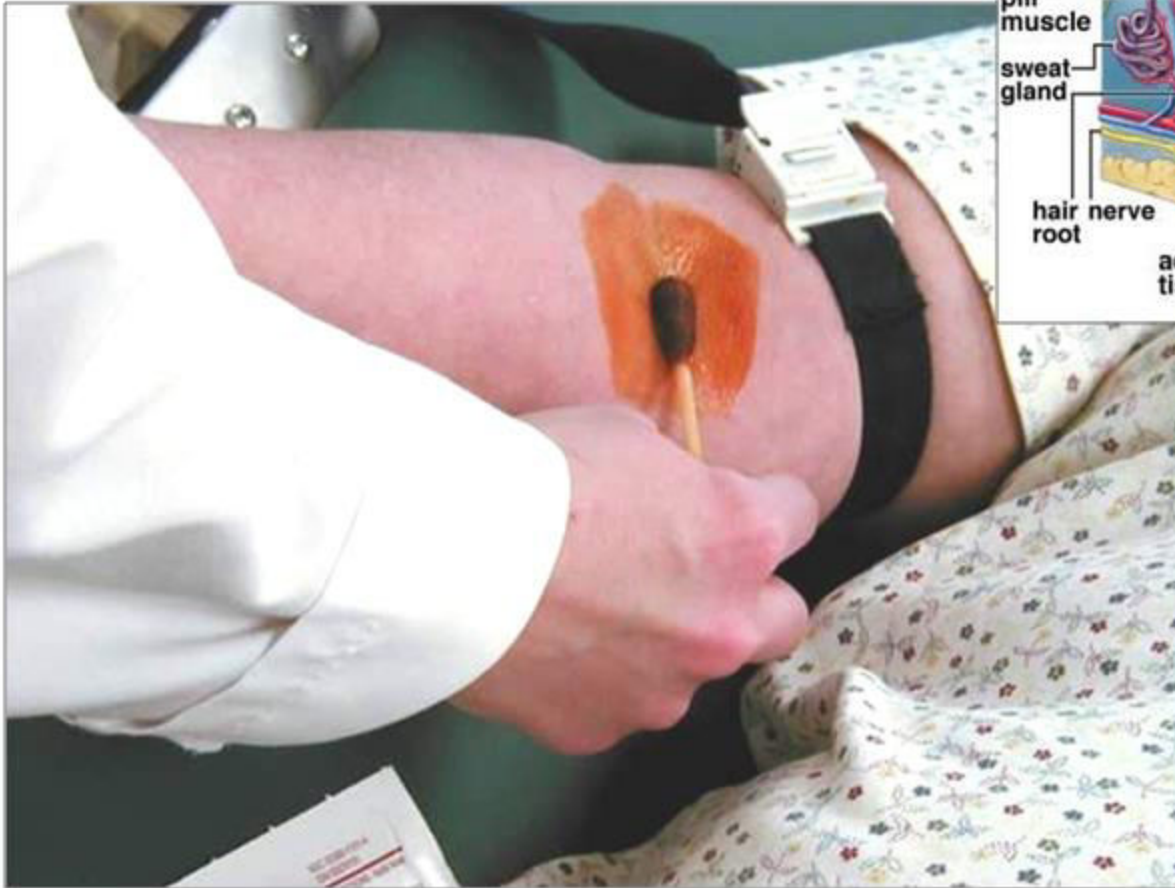
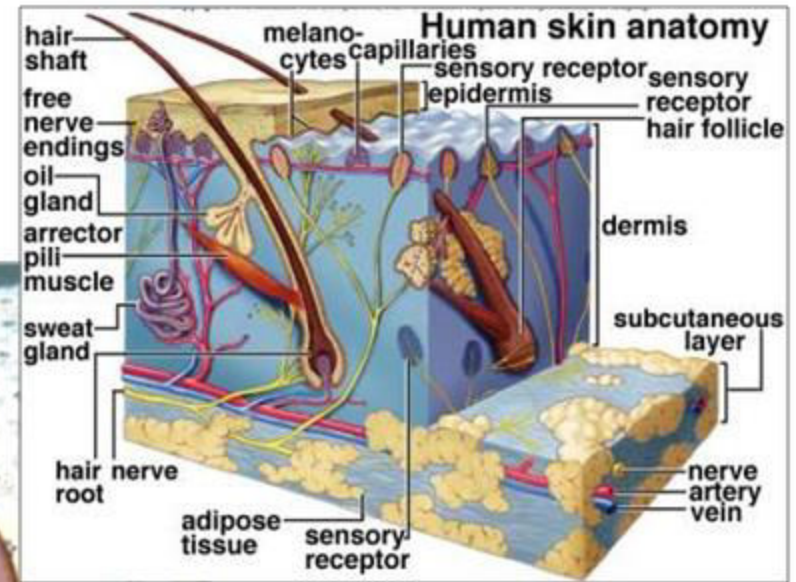
- The blood bank or transfusion service shall have methods to limit and detect bacterial or inactivate bacterial contamination in all platelet components.

# Reducing Bacterial Contamination

- Donor Health History
- Phlebotomy Site Inspection
- Skin Preparation
- Sample Diversion



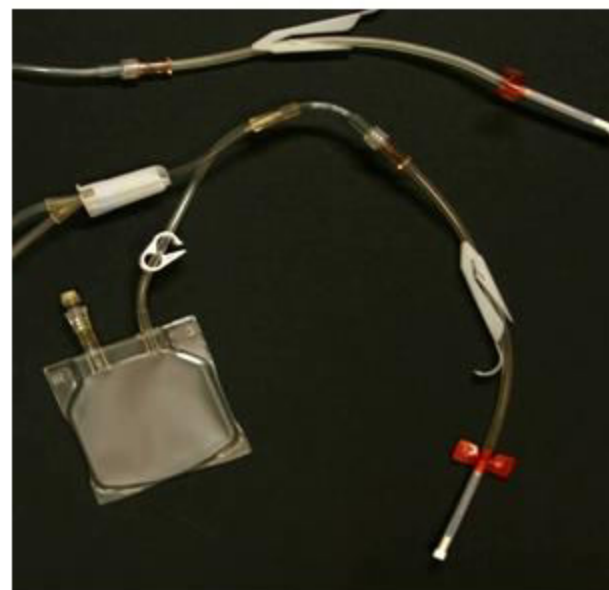
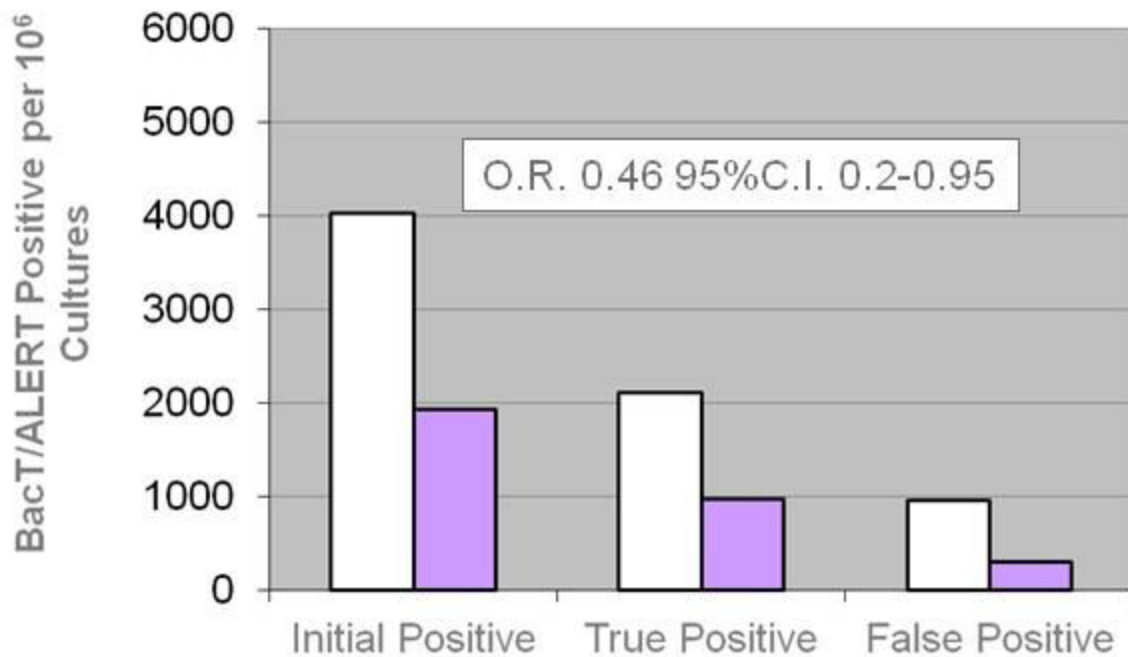
# Arm Preparation



Standardized protocol  
1 or 2 step:

- *Tincture of iodine/IPA*
- *Povidone Iodine*
- *2% Chlorhexidine/IPA*

# Inlet-line Diversion



Culture Outcome in Prestorage-pooled Platelets

# Detecting Contamination

- Prerelease culture testing
  - Pall eBDS™
  - bioMerieux BacT/ALERT™
- Day of transfusion testing
  - Verax PGD™
  - Immunitics BacTx™
  - PCR assays
  - Bactiflow ALS

# BacT/ALERT™ Bacterial QC Culture

Transfusion "Neg to date"



Apheresis platelets since March 2004  
Aerobic culture only  
Tested > 3.8 M collections  
Distributed > 6 M cultured products

# Bacterial Detection in Apheresis Platelets

March 1, 2004 – December 31, 2012

Total APLT Donations: 3,859,114

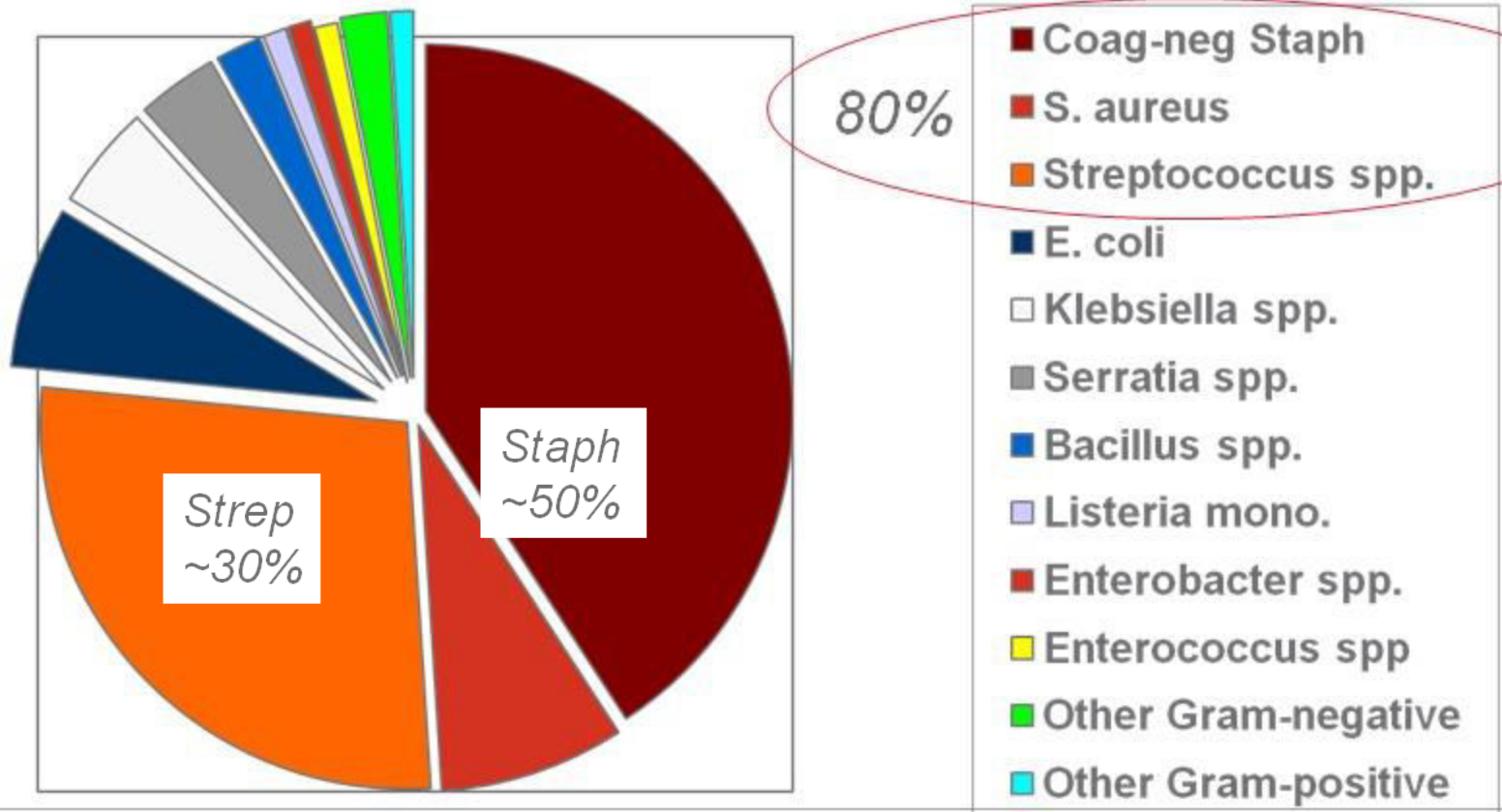
Interpretation	n	%	Rate	Rate per 10 <sup>6</sup>
Confirmed positive	757	51%	1 : 5,098	196
False positive (unconfirmed)	521	36%	1 : 7,407	135
Unable to Determine	178	12%	1 : 21,680	46
Total	1,465	100%	1 : 2,634	380

*Isolate identified in initial BacT aerobic bottle  
(2,540 APLT components)*

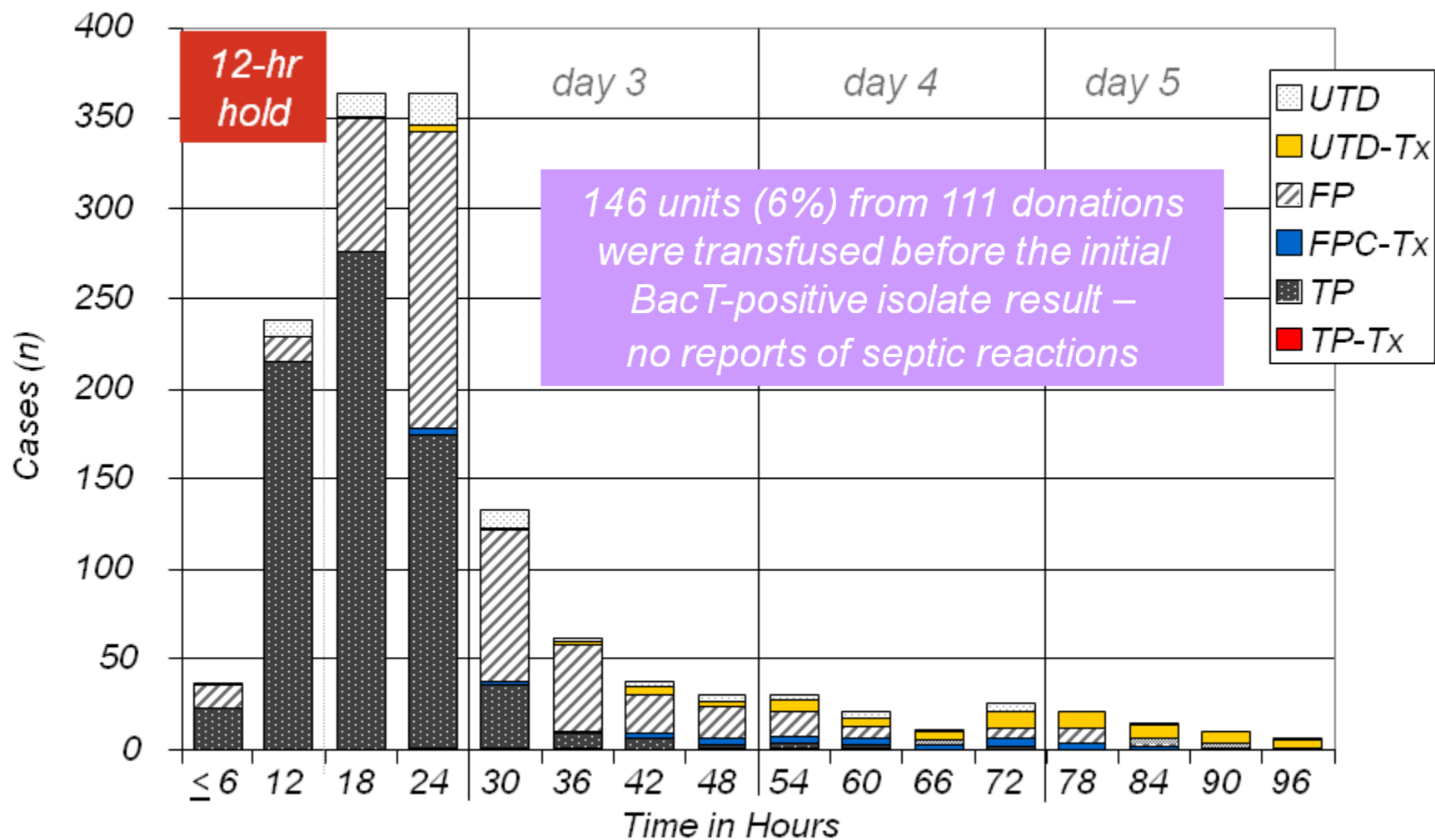
# Bacteria Confirmed by Re-culture

March 1, 2004 – December 31, 2012

Total APLT Donations: 3,859,114

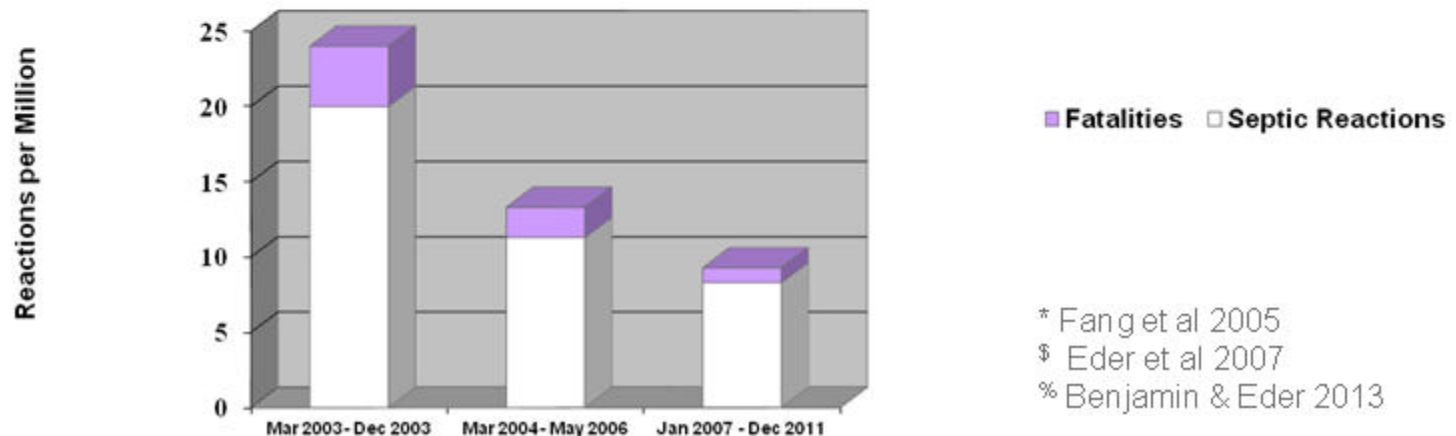


# Time to Initial Positive



# Declining Risk of Sepsis in the Red Cross

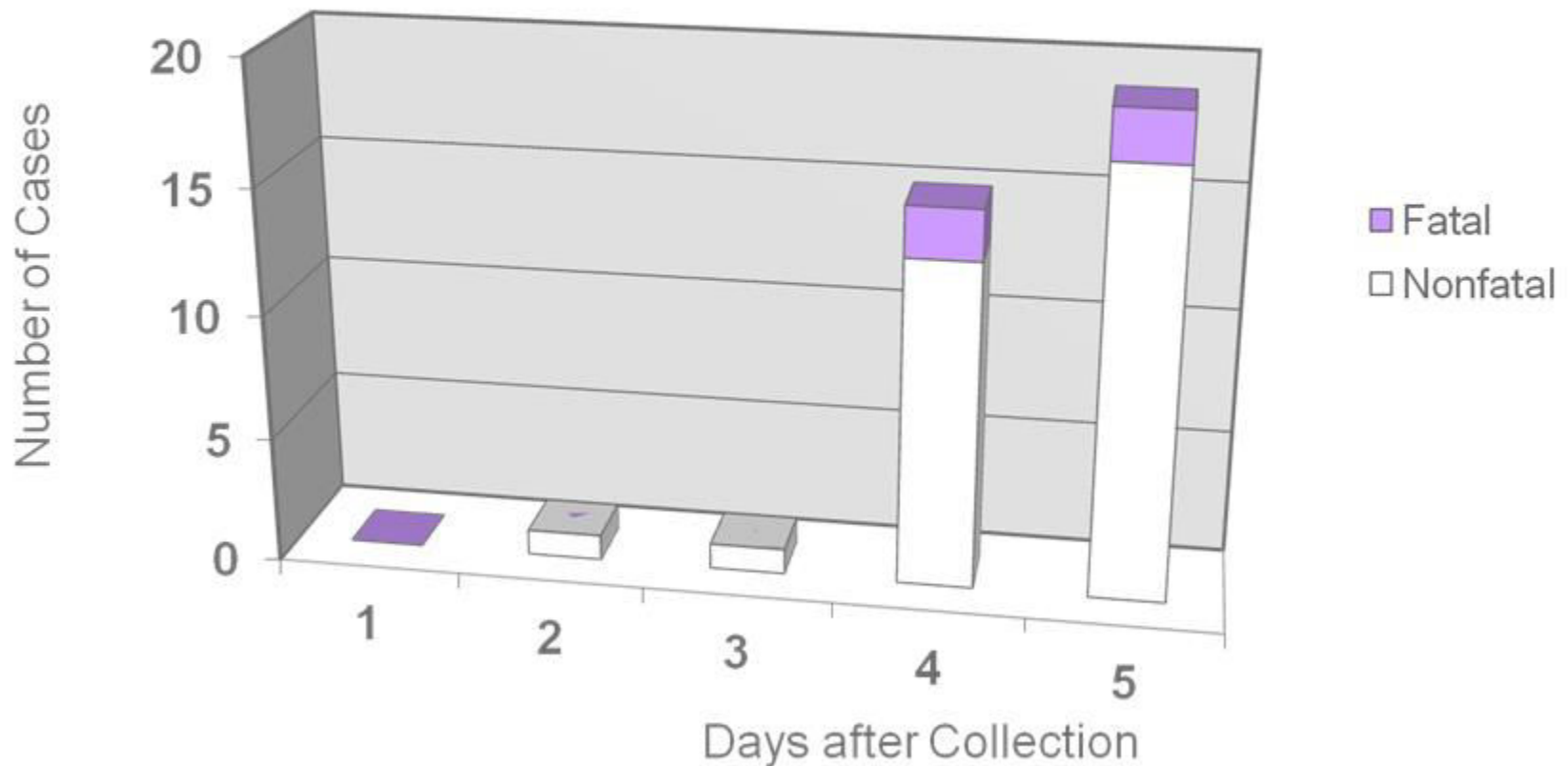
	Before Culture*	39% Diversion & 4ml Culture <sup>\$</sup>	100% Diversion & 8ml volume <sup>%</sup>
	March 2003- Dec 2003	March 2004- May 2006	Jan 2007- Dec 2011
<b>Components</b>	~500,000	1,496,134	4,063,371
<b>Septic Reactions</b>	12 reactions ~1:40,000	20 reactions ~1:75,000	38 reactions ~1:107,000
<b>Deaths</b>	2 fatalities ~1:250,000	3 fatalities ~1:500,000	4 fatalities ~1:1,016,000





# Septic Reactions – Day of Storage

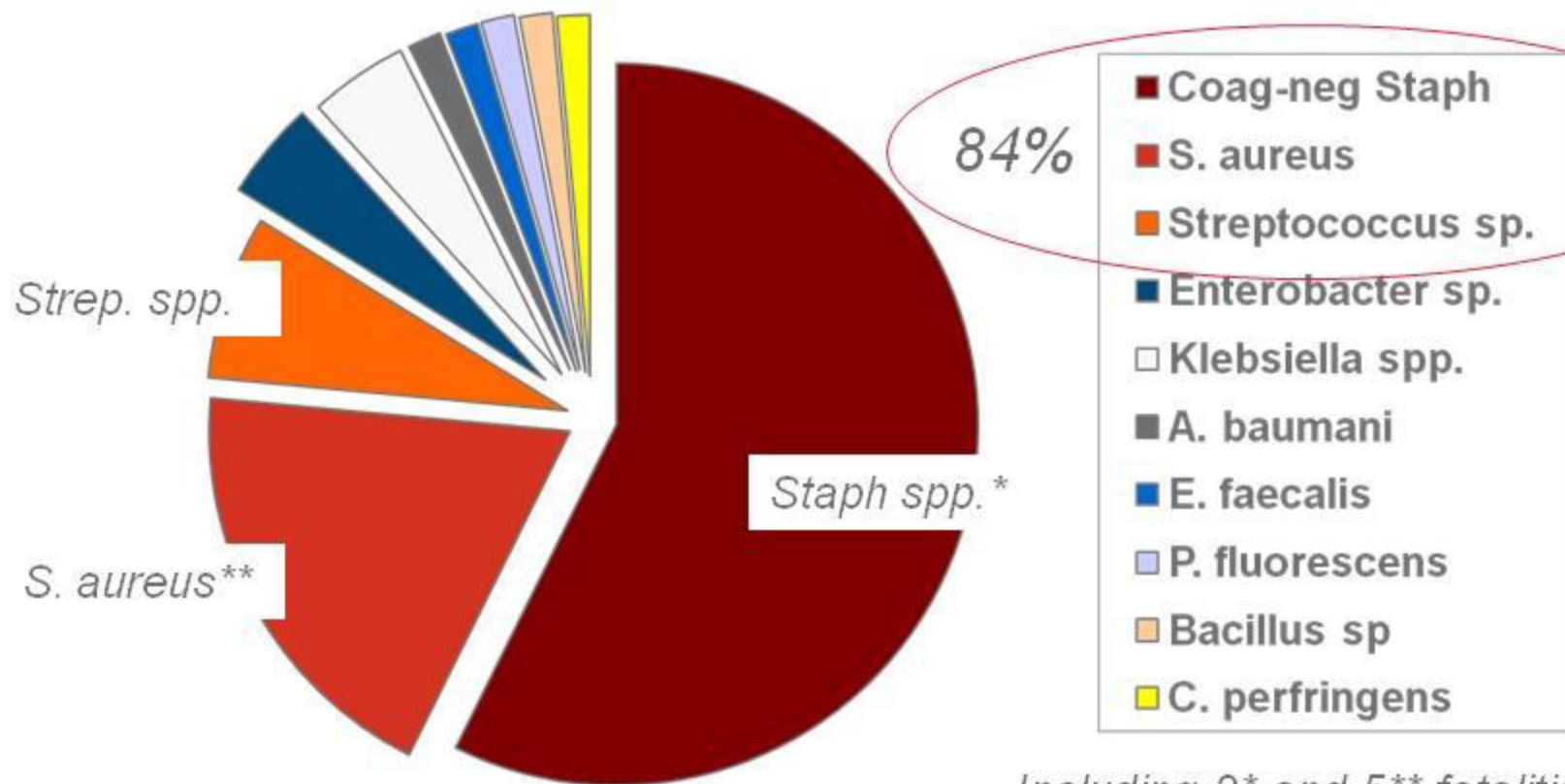
38 Definite/Probable Septic reactions, Apheresis Platelets, 2007-2011



# Implicated Bacteria, Septic Reactions

March 1, 2004 to December 31, 2012

68 septic reactions; 6,401,463 distributed apheresis platelets



Including 2\* and 5\*\* fatalities

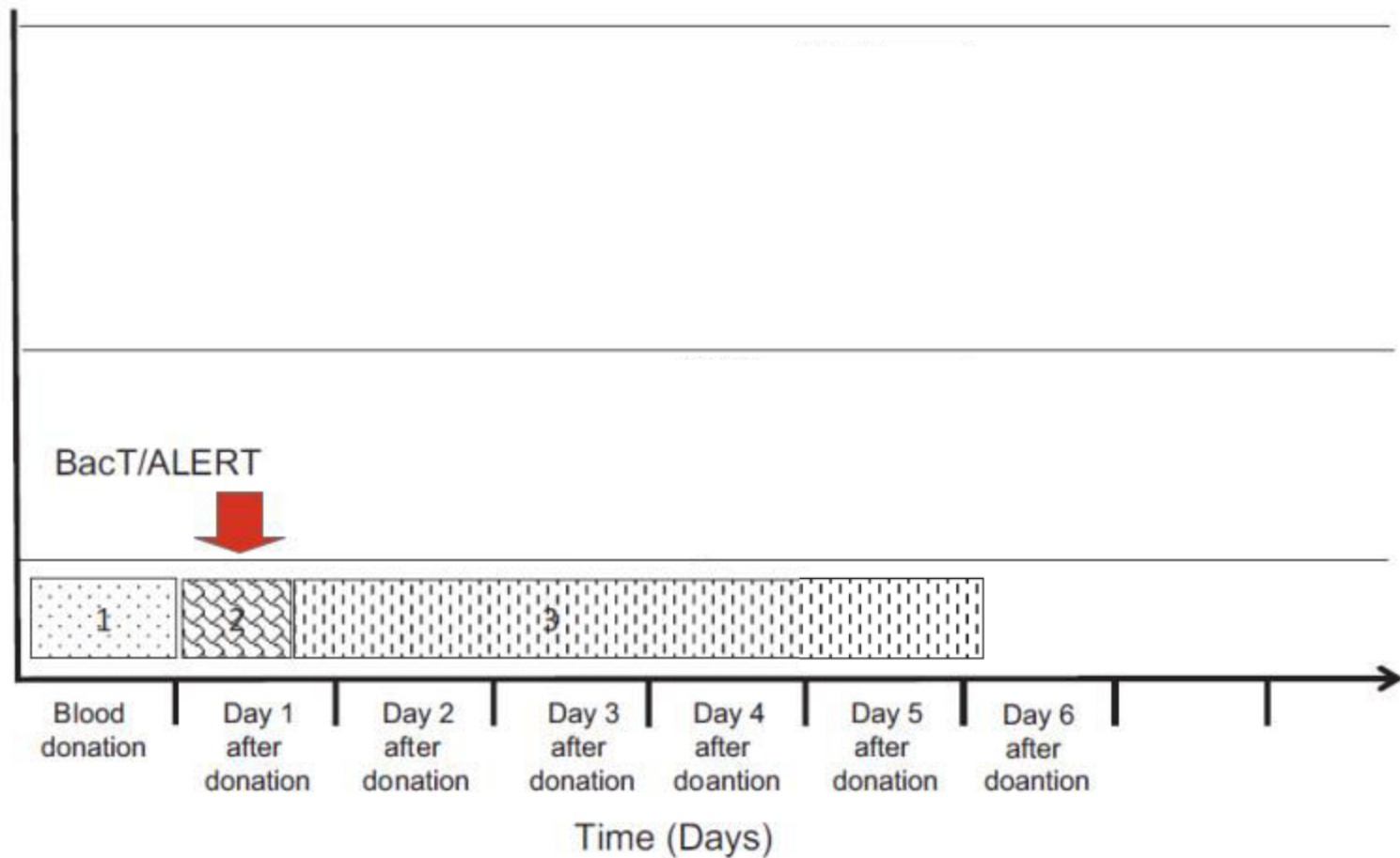
# Bacterial Residual Risk at Outdate, after BacT/ALERT Screening

	# Tested	Confirmed Positives	Rate per million	Sensitivity of Day 1 Test	Reference
PASSPORT	6,039	4	662 (1:1,509)	25.9%	Dumont et al 2010
Irish BS Day 8	8,282	18	2,200 (1:460)	29.2%	Murphy et al 2008
Irish BS Day 4	3,310	4	1,200 (1:828)		Murphy et al 2008
Welsh BS	6,438	6	931 (1:1,073)	40.0%	Pearce et al 2011

60 - 74% of contaminated collections are missed by day 0/1 culture  
 Mostly slow growing Staphylococcus spp. P. acnes, but occasional pathogens



# FDA Proposal at BPAC



# Day of Transfusion Testing

Verax PGD Test

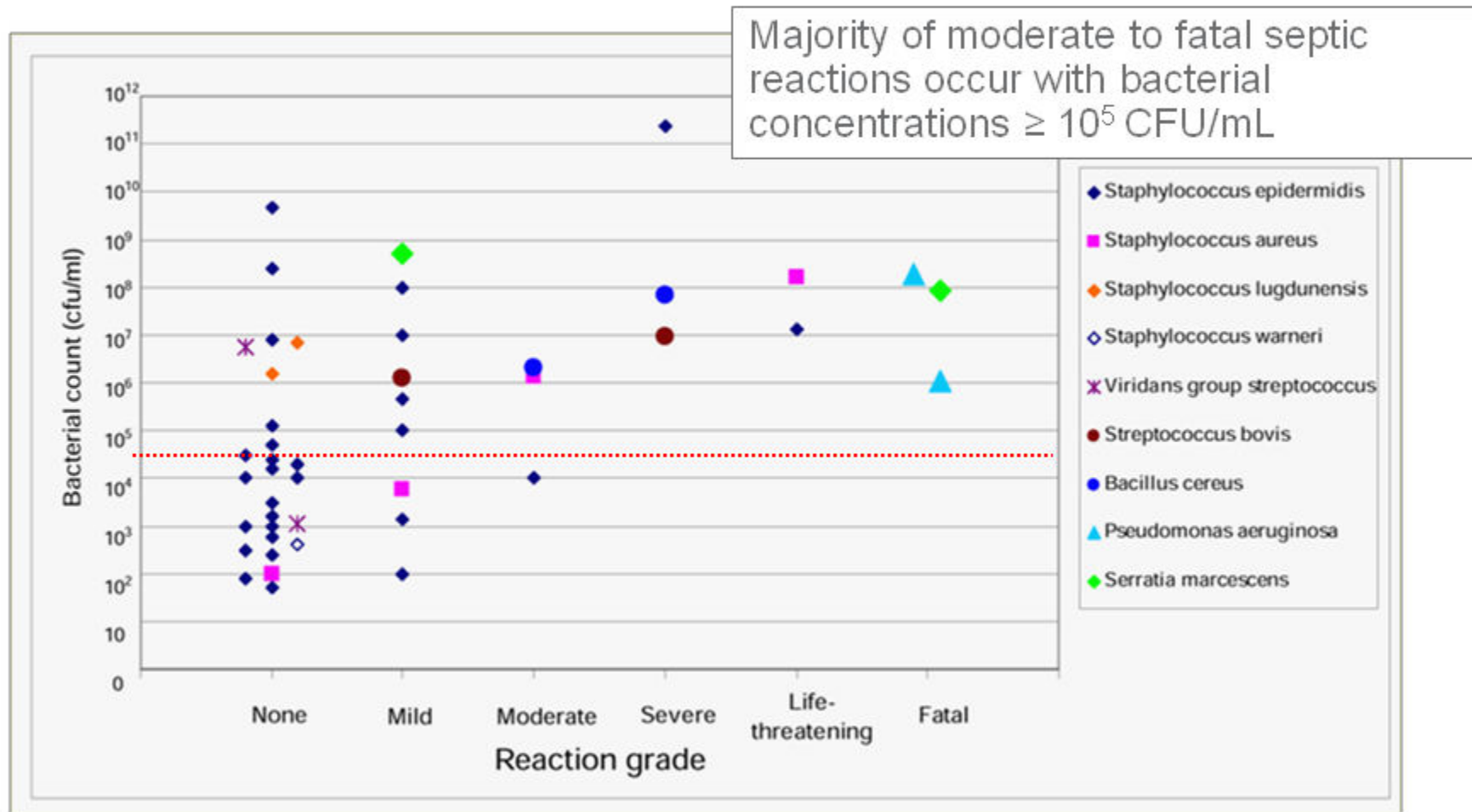


Immunitics BacTx Test



BactiFlow Test

# Reaction Severity vs. Bacterial Concentration



## Active Surveillance at Point of Issue

- Apheresis platelets tested at blood center with either eBDS or BacT/Alert cultures
- Verax PGD test: Analytical sensitivity  $\sim 10^3$ - $10^5$  cfu/ml, tested on days 3, 4 & 5 at 18 hospitals
  - 9 confirmed positives in 27,620 components tested
  - Detected of days 3 (4); 4 (2) and 5 (2)
  - All Gram positive organisms
  - Risk of contamination: **326 per million (1:3,069)**
- 1 in 200 false positives and 2 in 10,000 false negatives

# Pathogen Reduction by Inactivation

## Platelets

- Amotosalen/UV-A light (Intercept<sup>tm</sup>)
- Riboflavin/UV light (Mirasol<sup>tm</sup>)
- UV-C light (Theraflex<sup>tm</sup> UV-platelets)








# Bacterial Inactivation at High Concentrations

(log <sub>10</sub> reduction)	Amotosalen/UVA	Riboflavin/UV	UVC
<i>Staphylococcus</i> , coag neg	>6.6	≥ 4.6	4.8
<i>S. aureus</i>	6.6	4.8	>4.8
<i>Streptococcus spp.</i>	>6.8	2.6-3.7	
<i>P. acnes</i>	>6.7		4.5
<i>Bacillus spp.</i>	3.6	2.6	4.3
<i>E. coli</i>	>6.4	≥ 4.4	>4.0
<i>Klebsiella spp.</i>	>5.6	2.8	4.8
<i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>	4.5	>4.5	>4.9
<i>S. marcescens</i>	>6.7	4.0	>5.0
<i>E. cloacae</i>			>4.3
<i>A. baumannii</i>		1.8	
<i>Y. enterocolitica</i>		3.3	
<i>L. monocytogenes</i>	>6.3		



Ruane et al. *Transfusion* 2004;44; 877; Goodrich et al. *Trans Apher Sci* 2006;35;5  
 Lin et al. *Transfusion* 2004;44;1496; Mohr et al. *Transfusion* 2009;49;1958

# Bacterial Sepsis: Hemovigilance State of the Art

Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Units	Sepsis Rate
<b>France</b> <i>Lefeuille et al. Abstract S66-030J AAB 2013</i> 								3.3 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	<b>1:50,000</b>
<b>USA</b> <i>Benjamin et al Vox Sanguinis 2013 (Online early)</i> 								4.1 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	<b>1:107,000</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b> <i>SHOT 2012</i> 								~500,000	<b>&lt;1:500,000</b>
<b>France &amp; Switzerland</b> <i>Mansouri et al JSTMCT 2013</i>  								190,636	<b>&lt;1:190,636</b>

# Conclusions

- Bacterial sepsis is a major risk of platelet transfusion that can be reduced by improved collection techniques and the introduction of culture testing
- Substantial residual risk for sepsis remains and is likely understated by passive hemovigilance
- Point of Issue testing and pathogen inactivation technologies are likely to be useful but imperfect solutions that will require extensive hemovigilance monitoring to demonstrate efficacy