



Questions in a case of suspected HDFN with maternal anti-*Vel* reported

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Objectives

- Review Vel | Cellano | ISBT definitions
- Review of data for this case and discuss the problems
- A surprise conversation



The “not so” usual admission

- The call to evening shift
- The outside **Bombshell** maternal results.
- Pathologist on-call notified
- Our results???



Outside lab results

Mom is R₂r, O pos with anti-Vel identified in her plasma. Her phenotype at an outside facility was C-, E+, c+, e+; K+, k-; Fy(a+b+); Jk(a+-b+); M+, N-, S+, s+; Vel-

Mom had a positive antibody screen with anti-Vel identified. Titers performed indicated an increase from 16 to 64 prior to delivery.

Outside lab results

- Baby born at 39 weeks and weighed 2.96 Kg.
- Meconium stained fluid noted. Apneic and floppy with agars of 2,4,7 with poor respiratory effort | Large abdomen noted with absent bowel sounds | Bronze pale skin | Thrombocytopenic | Possible sepsis with bacteremia of 26% | HDFN | Hyperbilirubinemia and elevated liver enzymes | CHD | Persistent pulmonary hypertension | Generalized edema | Anemic with birth Hgb of 7 g/dL | Excessive umbilical bleeding during line insertion | CRP increasing from 0.37 to 2.32
 - Cord Blood results – O pos with a negative DAT test
 - Transfusions – 3 syringes of Red Cells all from the same donor unit
3 syringes of platelets all from the same donor unit
2 syringes of plasma, both from the same donor unit

Extreme blood banking results

Results from specialists at the CBC IRL; ARC in California & Wichita

ARC Mom Prenatal

CBC Mom postpartum

RBCs:

ABO Group	Most Probable Rh Genotype	D	C	E	c	e	Other Blood Groups	Direct Antiglobulin Test
O	R ₂ r	+	neg	+	+	+	S+s+ K+k- Fy(a+b+) Jk(a+b+) Vel-	Negative

SERUM: The patient's serum contained alloanti-Vel reactive at RT, 37C, and by LISS, PEG, and ficin AGT.

COMMENTS: The patient's serum reacted strongly with all RBCs of common phenotype at RT, 37C, and by LISS, PEG, and ficin indirect antiglobulin test. The patient's serum was non-reactive with 7 of 7 examples of rare Vel- RBCs by LISS and PEG indirect antiglobulin test. All other common alloantibodies were excluded.

Anti-Vel in the sera of prenatal patients is potentially clinically significant, depending on the antigen status of the neonate. These antibodies are generally IgG and will cross the placenta. This patient should be monitored carefully during her pregnancy. Additional testing could include typing the father of the child for the Vel antigen.

Anti-Vel defines an antigen of high frequency in the Vel blood group collection. The antigen is found on nearly 100% of all donor RBCs. Anti-Vel has been reported to be associated with none to severe hemolytic transfusion reaction, and none to severe HDFN, even though Vel antigen expression on cord RBCs is weak, as compared to adult RBCs.

TRANSFUSION RECOMMENDATIONS: Units for transfusion may be found by crossmatching Vel- donors of the appropriate ABO and Rh groups and selecting those units which are non-reactive with the patient's serum.

Because Vel- blood is so rare, this patient should consider autologous blood donation in anticipation of future blood needs and should become registered with the American Rare Donor Program. Family members, especially siblings should be screened as possible sources of additional rare Vel- blood. If we may be of assistance in these matters please let us know.

ABO Group	Rh Type	Other Antigen Types	Polyspecific	IgG Specific	Complement
O	Pos	C-, E+, c+, e+; K+, k; Fy(a+b+); Jk(a+b+); M+, N-, S+, s+; Vel-	Negative	NA	NA

Antibody Identification					
Previous Serologic Findings			Current Serologic Findings		
Source	Antibody	Clinical Significance	Source	Antibody	Clinical Significance
	See Below		Plasma	Anti-Vel	Significant
			Plasma	No new alloantibodies	

Anti-Vel is clinically significant and is associated with hemolytic disease of the fetus/newborn (HDFN).

The incidence of Vel-negative donors is <1%. We recommend that the patient donate units to be frozen

Baby result per the experts

ABO Group	Rh Type	Red Blood Cell		
		Other Antigen Types	Polyspecific	Direct Antiglobulin Test
O	Pos		Polyspecific	IgG Specific
			Positive	Negative
				Complement
				Positive

Current Serologic Findings		
Source	Antibody	Clinical Significance
Plasma & Eluate	No alloantibodies detected	See Below

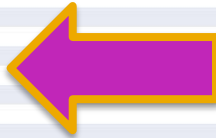
The patient's mother has a history of anti-Vel. Anti-Vel is clinically significant and is associated with hemolytic disease of the fetus/newborn (HDFN).

The cause of the patient's positive direct antiglobulin test (DAT) is not known. Increased reactivity of the DAT or unexplained failure of transfused or autologous red cells to survive may warrant further evaluation.

Our Labs “?”

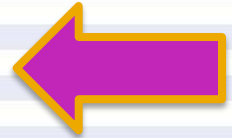
3/2 – 3/3

Order	Date	Pe...	St...	ID	Procedure	C Result
Type and Screen	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		Received	Yes
ABO/Rh Neo	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		History Check	Reviewed
ABO/Rh Neo	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		Anti-A	0
ABO/Rh Neo	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		Anti-B	0
ABO/Rh Neo	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		Anti-D	3+
ABO/Rh Neo	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		ABO/Rh Neonatal Inte...	O POS
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		History Check	Reviewed
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		Blood Bank ID	R12471
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 19:59	P...	Ve...		SC1 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 19:59	P...	Ve...		SC2 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 19:59	P...	Ve...		SC3 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/02/2016 19:59	P...	Ve...		Antibody Screen Interp	Negative
Direct Antiglobulin Test Neonatal	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		IgG GEL	0
Direct Antiglobulin Test Neonatal	03/02/2016 18:50	P...	Ve...		DAT Neonatal Interp	Negative
Confirm ABO					History Check	
Confirm ABO					Anti-A	
Confirm ABO					Anti-B	
Confirm ABO					Anti-D	
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...		Blood Bank ID	R12471
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...		History Check	Reviewed
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...	W0450160146...	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...	W0450160146...	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...	W0450160174...	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/02/2016 23:02	P...	Ve...	W0450160174...	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/03/2016 08:51	Wi...	Ve...	W0450160235...	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/03/2016 08:51	Wi...	Ve...	W0450160235...	XM Interp	Compatible
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		Poly	0
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		Poly 5 min	1+
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		IS Complement	0
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		Complement 5min	1+
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		IgG GEL	0
DAT	03/03/2016 08:55	P...	Ve...		DAT Interp	IgG Neg/Complement Pos
BB Hold	03/03/2016 11:03	Gr...	Ve...		BBK HOLD	NP
BB Hold	03/03/2016 11:03	Gr...	Ve...		Blood Bank ID	R12471
ABID REF	03/04/2016 14:49	B...	Ve...		Antibody Result	f Other
T-Activation	03/07/2016 14:48	M...	C...		T - Activation	The patient's cells were nonreactive when tested against six



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Order	Date	S...	ID	Procedure	C Result
Type and Scre...	03/07/2016 10:25	V		Received	Yes
DAT	03/07/2016 10:37	V		Poly	0
DAT	03/07/2016 10:37	V		Poly 5 min	0
DAT	03/07/2016 10:37	V		Poly CC	2+
DAT	03/07/2016 10:37	V		DAT Interp	Negative
ABO/Rh Neo	03/07/2016 10:25	V		History Check	Reviewed
ABO/Rh Neo	03/07/2016 10:25	V		Anti-A	0
ABO/Rh Neo	03/07/2016 10:25	V		Anti-B	0
ABO/Rh Neo	03/07/2016 10:25	V		Anti-D	f 1+
ABO/Rh Neo	03/07/2016 10:25	V		ABO/Rh Neonatal Int...	O POS
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:25	V		History Check	Reviewed
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:25	V		Blood Bank ID	R12377
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:44	V		SC1 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:44	V		SC2 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:44	V		SC3 GEL	0
ABS Gel	03/07/2016 10:44	V		Antibody Screen Interp	Negative
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 10:37	V		Blood Bank ID	R12377
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 10:37	V		History Check	Reviewed
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 10:45	V	W045016024982	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 11:45	V	W045016020130	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 11:45	V	W045016020130	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 11:45	V	W045016020155	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/07/2016 11:45	V	W045016020155	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/09/2016 08:54	V	W045016014297	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/09/2016 06:54	V	W045016014297	XM Interp	Compatible
Xmatch Comp	03/10/2016 19:04	V	W045016027425	XM GEL	0
Xmatch Comp	03/10/2016 19:04	V	W045016027425	XM Interp	Compatible



Anti-Vel?

- Isn't that really rare?
- Doesn't everybody have Vel?
- Why are baby's labs negative?
- Mom is Cellano negative as well?
- Possible **ECMO** ??????????



To review:

- Vel? Series, Collection or System
- Cellano?
- Bilirubin pathway?

ISBT definitions isbtweb.org

- Nomenclature: **Systems; Collections; Lows and Highs**
- **Systems** consist of one or more antigens controlled at a single gene locus, or by two or more very closely linked homologous genes with little or no observable recombination between them.
 - ABO, MNS, P, Rh, Lutheran, Kell, Lewis, Duffy, Kidd, Diego, Yt, Xg, Scianna, Dombrock, Colton, Landsteiner-Wiener, Chido, Rodgers, Hh, Kx, Gerbich, Cromer, Knops, Indian, Ok, Raph

ISBT definitions isbtweb.org

- **Collections** (*200 series*) consist of serologically, biochemically, or genetically related antigens, which do not fit the criteria required for system status

These antigens appear to be unique unto themselves

Cost, Ii, Er, GLOB, MN CHO

ISBT definitions isbtweb.org

All are inherited and none is eligible to join a system

Lows- 700 series

- *Antigens that occur in less than 1% of most populations studies and don't appear to belong to a system*
 - *TM 18th edition : By, Chr^a, Bi, Bx^a, To^a, Pt^a, Re^a, Je^a, Li^a, Milne, RASM, JFV, Kg, JONES, HJK, HOFM, SARA, and REIT*

Highs -901 series

- *Antigens that occur in more than 90% of the populations and are not known to be long to a system. In Transfusion April 2000*
 - *Vel+, Lan+, At(a+), Jr(a+) [901:1,2,3,5]*
- *Vel became a collection in 2008 with ABTI*

5/30/2013 “Transfusion news” Vel is classified as a new blood group system

- Isbtweb.org Responsible Committee Member

034

Vel

Jill Storry

ABTI is serologically related to Vel. However is has been excluded from SM1M1 by sequencing analysis and thus remains in a collection.

OK so it's a system; what is it and what does it do?

- Dr. Storry and colleagues identified a **common deletion across 20 Vel-negative individuals on** chromosome 1, and identified SMIM1 as the erythroid gene encoding a conserved transmembrane protein.
- Vel-negative blood group phenotype was first identified in 1952, after Ms. Vel had an acute hemolytic transfusion reaction. She had a history of 3 pregnancies and colon cancer requiring transfusions.

Vel System

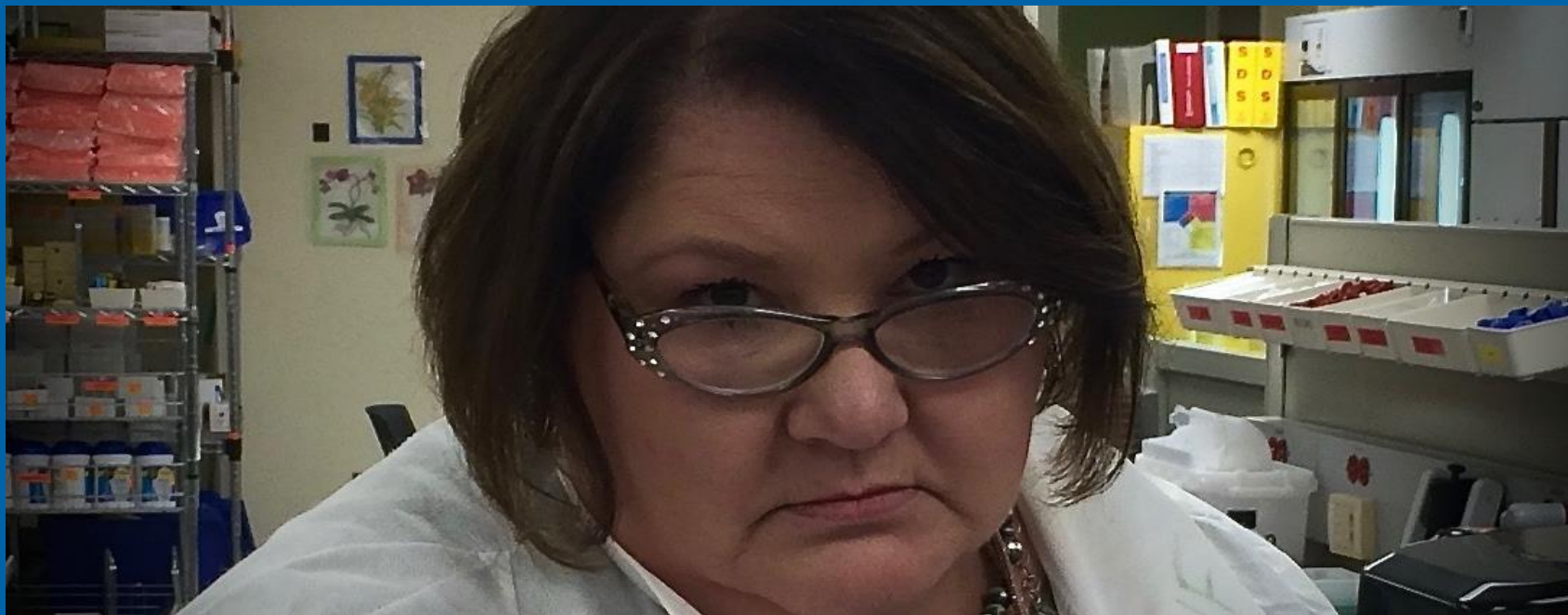
- This newly discovered protein's function on the RBC surface is currently unknown
- Antigen expression is **generally weak on cord RBCs** and differs substantially from one individual to another. Patterns of expression are consequence of both zygosity for the 17-base pair deletion and a SNP in a GATA-1 transcription factor site in intron 2.
- Serological expression is **not affected** by **protease treatment** although sensitivity to reducing agents such as **0.2M DTT is variable**.
- **Antibody is IgM and IgG** and readily **activate complement** and have been implicated in mild to severe HTRs although HDFN is rare.

More on Vel

- Identifying the blood type's genetic basis will more easily screen patients.
- This mutation is a deletion of 17 nucleotides, causing the DNA sequence to be "frameshifted" -- a catastrophic mutation (from the gene's point of view) that destroys the integrity of the gene sequence. The Vel antigen is not produced by these individuals.
- Further analysis and experimentation revealed that *SMIM1* is linked to hemoglobin concentration, although its relevance in this function is unknown.

<http://www.realclearscience.com/blog/2013/04/the-mystery-of-the-vel-negative-blood-type.html> Vel Blood Group

Wait...What...Weak on cord blood



ECMO initiated 3/2



What about Cellano negative



What about these Labs



Prevalence of an antigen negative unit of RBCs (with a dash of Optimism)

- Blood type O [44%], k negative [99.8%], Vel negative [99.9%]
- >90% (optimistic if a known population of Swedes or Norwegians is known to donate in Kansas City) or 99.9% (realistically)

Take the antigen negative percentages:

- $(44\%)(0.2\%)(0.1\%) = .000088\%$ or 9 in 10,000,000 or 1 in 1,136,364 (realistically)
 - $(44\%)(0.2\%)(\sim < 10\%) = .0088\%$ or 1 in 11,364 (optimism for Scandinavia KC)

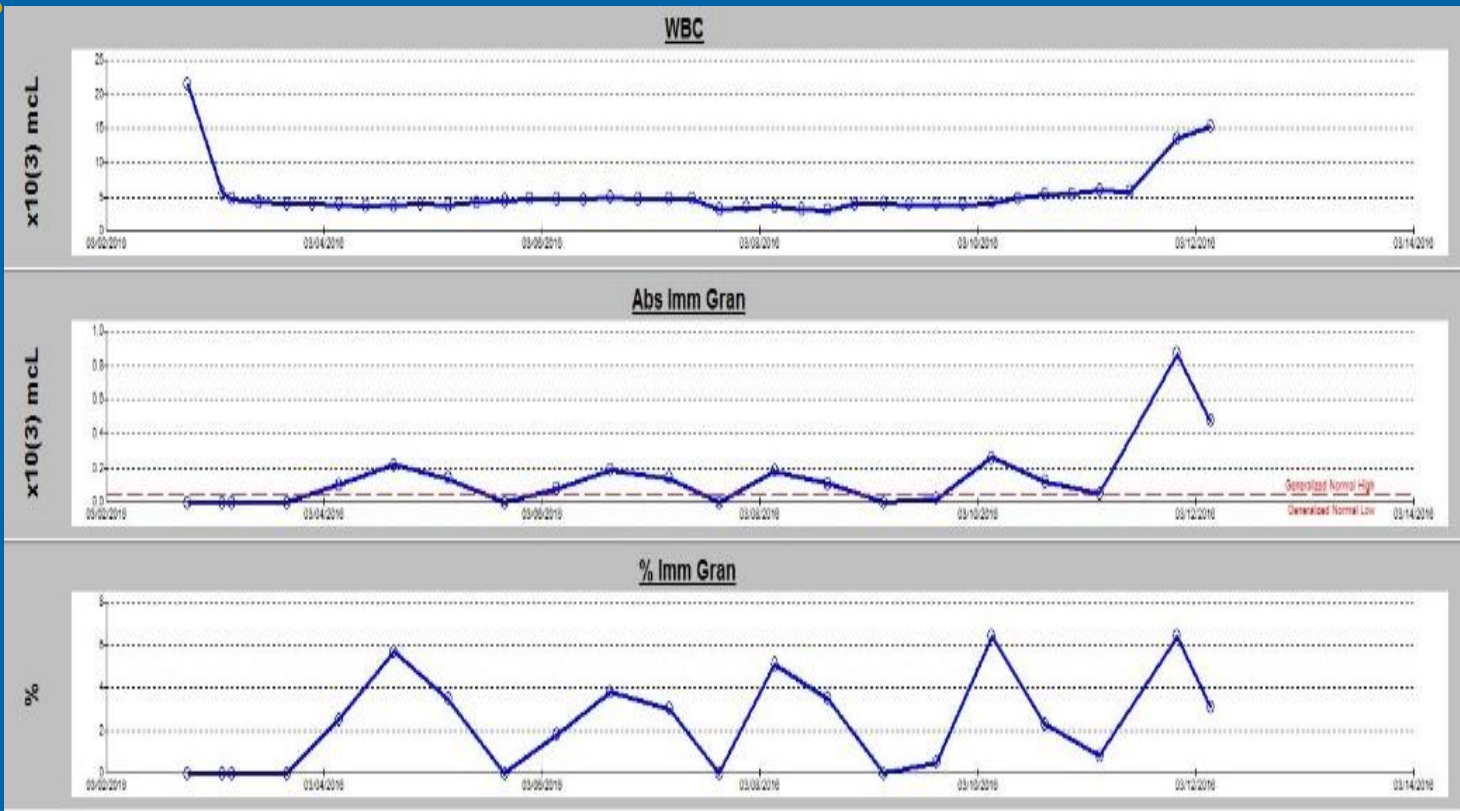
We are going to need more coffee...



Our Labs

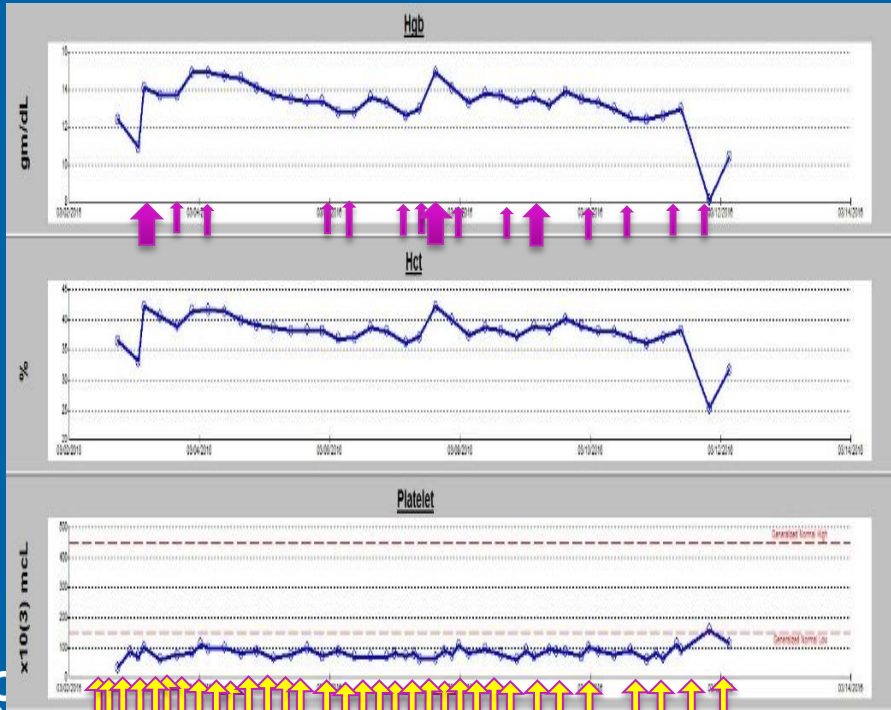
Normal WBC:

5 – 21



Our Labs

Cryo ↑ FFP ↑ plts ↑ RBCs ↑



More questions

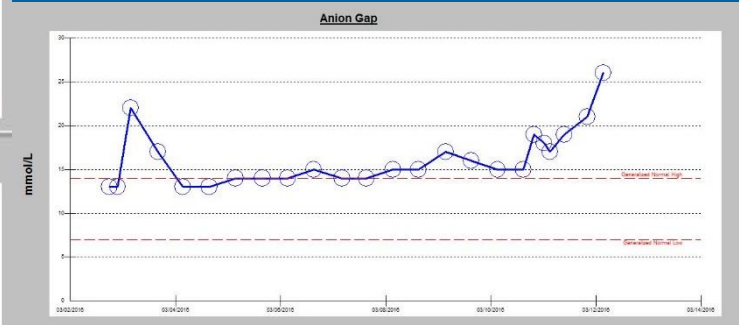
- IgM v. IgG: Why so variable?
- Why is the indirect Bilirubin normal?
- What roll did the transfusions at birth play in the result we were getting?
- Why is there constant thrombocytopenia?

Underlying platelet AB?

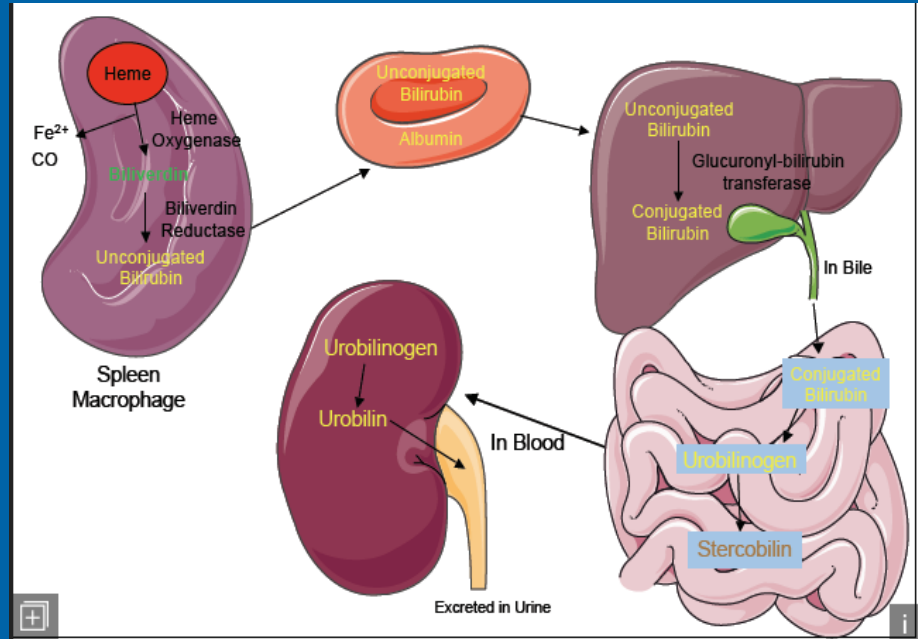
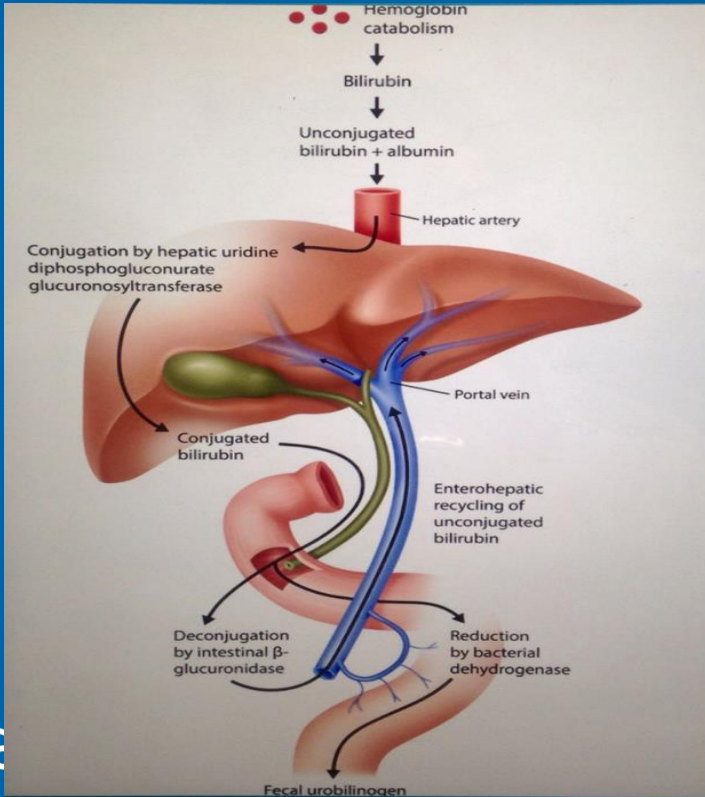
Immunoematology Platelet Antibody Testing			Date Tested:	3/9/2016
<u>Test Performed</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>Comments</u>	Platelet Transfusion Recommendation	
Antibody Screen	Negative		Selection of platelets by crossmatch is not necessary	



Our Labs



Breakdown review



Possibilities

NEONATAL CHOLESTASIS

- Bile duct obstruction
 - Extrahepatic biliary atresia
- Neonatal infection
 - Cytomegalovirus
 - Bacterial sepsis
 - Urinary tract infection
 - Syphilis
- Toxic
 - Drugs
 - Parenteral nutrition
- Metabolic disease
 - Tyrosinemia
 - Niemann-Pick disease
 - Galactosemia
 - Defective bile acid synthetic pathways
 - α_1 -Antitrypsin deficiency
 - Cystic fibrosis
- Miscellaneous
 - Shock/hypoperfusion
 - Indian childhood cirrhosis
 - Alagille syndrome (paucity of bile ducts)

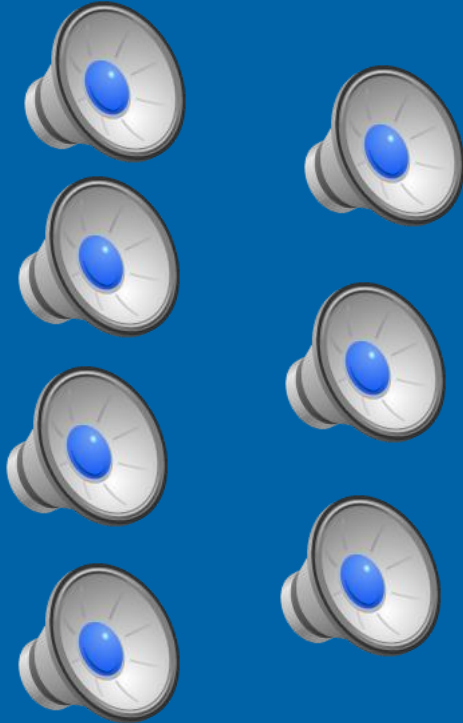
	HDFN	Sepsis	GALD	Metabolic Other
Anemia	+	+	+	+
Dat	+	-	-	-
Plasma Hgb	+	+	-	+
Bilirubin	+	+	+	+

In mom's words

Hi Karen. This is

[REDACTED] I
received your call this
afternoon pertaining to
my daughter [REDACTED] I
would more than happy
to answer your
questions. [REDACTED]





Problems?

- When did you know there was a problem?
- Did you know baby was sick?
- Titters?
- Siblings?
- Transfusions?
- Final Dx

Surprise

- Autologous donations
- Doppler/Protocol
- Houston specialist

Final thoughts



- As only someone in this situation can say

Thank you | Questions?

In the end, some of your **greatest pains** become
your **greatest strengths.**

