



# BLOOD GROUPS AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION

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# **OBJECTIVES**

# At the end of this lecture you should be able to:

- **1.Describe ABO blood groups types.**
- 2.Recognize Agglutinin in plasma.
- 3.Describe genetic inheritance of Blood groups.
- 4. Recognize transfusion reactions.
- **5.Describe Rhesus blood groups.**
- 6.Describe causes of hemolytic disease of the newborn.

# **BLOOD GROUPS**



- Discovered ABO Blood group system in 1901
- Discovered Rh factor in 1930 along with Alexander S. Wiener
- Noble prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1930

### KARL LANDSTEINER (1886-1943)

Austrian scientist

## **BLOOD GROUP SYSTEMS**

- Blood Groups are determined by: Antigens (glycoproteins, complex oligosaccharides that differ in their terminal sugar) present on the surface of RBCs
- About 20 blood group systems are known
   (Eg. ABO System, Rh-System MNS System, Kell System,
   Lewis System, Duffy, Lutheran, KIDD)
- Two are common
  - ABO blood group system
  - Rh (Rhesus) blood group system





red blood cells.

### The ABO system:

- Depends on whether the red cells contain one, both or neither of the two blood antigens: A and B
- Four main ABO groups: A, B, AB, O

Locus of alleles responsible of ABO system is on long arm of chromosome 9 while Rh locus is on chromosome 1

# Rhesus (Rh) Blood Group is Determined by:

- Presence or absence of the Rhesus antigen
   (D) on the surface of RBC:
  - Presence of D (individual is Rh+ve) [85%]
  - Absence of D (individual is Rh–ve) [15%]
- Rhesus antigens:
  - Dd, Cc, Ee
  - Clinically most important is D



Landsteiner and Weiner in 1940 discovered other antigens in human R.B.Cs and named rhesus antigens or Rh-antigen because the same antigens are present in Rhesus monkey.

# **Antibodies in ABO & Rh Systems**

- Anti-A & Anti-B are: naturally occurring antibodies.
- Not present at birth, appear 8 weeks after birth.
- Triggered by A & B antigens in food and bacteria.
- Anti-D antibody (agglutinin):
- Is not naturally-occurring and are Acquired by:
  - Transfusion of Rh-ve individual with Rh+ve blood.
  - Rh-ve pregnancy with Rh+ve faetus.

Landsteiner Law (1900) If an agglutinogen is present on the RBC of an individual, the corresponding agglutinin must be absent in the plasma of that individual and vice-versa. This law is only applicable to ABO blood grouping system.

#### **TABLE 31–3** Summary of ABO system.

Blood Type	Agglutinins in Plasma	Frequency in United States %	Plasma Agglutinates Red Cells of Type:
0	Anti-A, anti-B	45	A, B, AB
А	Anti-B	41	B, AB
В	Anti-A	10	A, AB
AB	None	4	None

**Antibodies in Serum are also known as AGGLUTININS** 

# Inheritence of ABO system

- The ABO gene locus is located on the chromosome 9
- A and B blood groups are dominant over the O blood group
- A and B group genes are co-dominant
- Each person has two copies of genes coding for their ABO blood group (one maternal and one paternal in origin)

## **AUTOSOMAL CHROMOSOME**



A

The alleles for Blood group are in the same place on the chromosome 9. However the genes have a different code giving the different blood group



one alleles from Mother and one from Father.

# GENETIC DETERMINATION OF AGGLUTINOGENS

Parent	Α	B	0
Allele			
Α	AA	AB	AO
В	AB	BB	BO
0	AO	BO	00

# GENETIC DETERMINATION OF AGGLUTINOGENS

Blood Group	Antigens on RBCs	Antibodies in Serum	Genotype s
A	A	Anti-B	AA or AO
В	B	Anti-A	BB or BO
AB	A and B	Neither	AB
0	Neither	Anti-A and Anti- B	00

**Antibodies in Serum are also known as AGGLUTININS** 

## **AGGLUTININS / ANTIBODIES**

 Immunoglobulins Are proteins which appear in the plasma or body fluids in response to administration of antigens
 IqM & IqG

anti-A or anti-B antibodies are of the IgM class (large molecules) and these do not cross the placenta Rh antibodies are IgG type & can cross placenta

# TITER OF ANTI-A& B AGGLUTININS AT DIFFERENT AGES



Two to 8 months after birth, an infant begins to produce agglutinins.

A maximum titer is usually reached at 8 to 10 years of age, and this gradually declines throughout the remaining years of life.

## **THE Rh IMMUNE RESPONSE**

## Formation of anti-Rh agglutinins

If Rh +ve blood transfused to

Rh-ve person

Anti-Rh agglutinins develop slowly (2-4 months) Once produced they persist for years & can produce serious reactions during 2<sup>nd</sup> transfusion





### **Blood group A**

If you belong to the blood group A, you have A antigens on the surface of your RBCs and B antibodies in your blood plasma.

### **Blood group B**

If you belong to the blood group B, you have B antigens on the surface of your RBCs and A antibodies in your blood plasma.



#### **Blood group AB**

If you belong to the blood group AB, you have both A and B antigens on the surface of your RBCs and no A or B antibodies at all in your blood plasma.



#### **Blood group O**

If you belong to the blood group O (null), you have neither A or B antigens on the surface of your RBCs but you have both A and B antibodies in your blood plasma.

# **BLOOD GROUP TYPES**





(b)

# **BLOOD TYPING**

#### Anti-D serum determines Rh+ and Rh-



Blue arrows indicate agglutination

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Anti-A

Anti-B

# **Detremination of blood groups**



## Importance of blood groups

- In Blood transfusion
- In preventing hemolytic disease (Rh incompatibility)
- In paternity disputes
- In medicolegal cases
- In knowing susceptibility to disease

Group O- duodenal cancer Gropu A- Carcinoma of stomach, pancreas & salivary glands

# Agglutination in transfusion reaction

- If a patient of blood group A transfused with blood of group B
- The anti-B in plasma will agglutinate the transfused group B cells:
- Outcome:
  - The clumped cells plug small blood vessels (kidney shut down).
  - Sometimes immediate hemolysis.

## **Agglutination in transfusion reaction**

- If a person with blood group A transfused with blood of group B (contains anti-A in plasma)
- The anti-A in plasma of recipient blood group B will agglutinate the transfused cell (A)
- The clumped cells plug small blood vessels
- Sometimes causes immediate hemolysis

→Transfusion reaction

# Rh incompatibilty between mother and fetus

- Mother is Rh-ve and first baby is Rh+ve:
- At delivery
  - Fetal Rh+ RBC cross to maternal blood
  - The mother will develop Anti-D after delivery.
  - First child escapes & is safe

If the mother was transfused before with Rh+ve blood before, first child will also be affected

# Rh incompatibilty between mother and fetus

- Second fetus
  - If Rh+ve
  - Anti-D crosses placenta and destroys fetal Rh+ RBC

# Outcome? Hemolytic Disease of the newborn



# ERYTHROBLASTOSIS FETALIS / HEMOLYTIC DISEASE OF NEW BORN

- **1. Hemolytic anemia:** 
  - If severe:
  - treated with exchange transfusion:
  - Replace baby blood with Rh-ve RBC (several times)
- 2. Hydrops fetalis (death in utero)

## **Prevention:**

Injecting the mother with anti-D immediately after 1st childbirth Antenatal (during pregnancy) prophylaxis

### Prophylaxis

- Anti-D injection is given I/M to the mother
- Prevalence of Disease
  - I<sup>st</sup> Pregnancy ----- o%
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Pregnancy ----- 3%
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Pregnancy ----- 10%

### Etiology

- Exposure of the mother to the fetal RBC antigens
- Production of antibodies against foreign antigens in maternal circulation
- Maternal resensitization in the subsequent pregnancy
- Free passage of antibodies through the placenta
- Fetal red cell hemolysis

### Clinical Features

- Anemia
- Jaundice
- Hepatosplenomegaly
- Generalized edema
- Immature RBC in circulation
- Kernicterus

### Diagnosis

- Rapidly rising Rh antibody level in the mother during pregnancy
- Amniotic fluid showing high levels of bilirubin
- +ve coombs test on fetal cord blood

### Treatment

- Exchange transfusion
- Phototherapy

### Drugs

### **DONORS AND RECIPIENTS**

 People with blood group o are called "universal donors" and people with blood group AB are called "universal receivers."



If You Have	You Can Rece	íve		
0+	0+	0–		
0-	0-			
A+	A+	A–	0+	0–
A–	A–	0–		
B+	B+	B–	0+	0-
В-	B–	0–		
AB+	AB+	AB–	0+	0-
	A+	A–	B+	B-
AB-	AB-	0-	A–	В-

## **Blood tests before transfusion**

1.Blood group type of patient (recipient)
2. Cross-matching



2. Cross-matching: donor cells + recipients (patient) serum

mixing of donor's cells with recipient's plasma

## **DONORS AND RECIPIENTS**

Blood Group	Antigens	Antibodies	Can give Blood to	Can receive blood from
AB	A and B	None	AB	AB, A, B and O
A	A	B	A and AB	A and O
В	B	A	B and AB	B and O
0	None	A and B	AB, A, B and O	0

## **Complications of blood transfusion**

- Immune reaction: Incompatible blood transfusion leading to immediate or delayed reaction, fever, haemolysis, allergic reaction
- Transmission of diseases; malaria, syphilis, viral hepatitis & Aids
- Iron overload due to multi-transfusion in case of sickle cell anemia and thalassemia.

# **TRANSFUSION REACTIONS**

### 2 Types

- Immediate
  - Agglutination
  - Hemolysis
  - Fever
  - Allergic reaction
  - Acute renal shutdown
    - Renal vasoconstriction
    - Circulatory shock
    - Tubular blockage

- Delayed
  - Sensitization
  - Thrombo Phlebitis

# **BLOOD TRANSFUSION**

### Indications

- When blood is lost as a whole or as a result of haemorrhage or surgery
- Diseases
- Anemias



# TESTS DONE BEFORE TRANSFUSION

- Blood grouping
  - ABO & Rh grouping of donor and recipient
  - Cross matching
  - Screening of Donor Plasma

# THANKYOU

