

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Peeling, L; Perel, P; Prieto-Merino, D; Roberts, I; CRASH-2 Trial Collaborators, (2012) Risk Factors for Vascular Occlusive Events and Death Due to Bleeding in Trauma Patients; an Analysis of the CRASH-2 Cohort. PloS one, 7 (12). e50603. ISSN 1932-6203 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0050603>

Downloaded from: <http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/585226/>

DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0050603](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0050603)

Usage Guidelines

Please refer to usage guidelines at <http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/policies.html> or alternatively contact researchonline@lshtm.ac.uk.

Available under license: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/>

Risk Factors for Vascular Occlusive Events and Death Due to Bleeding in Trauma Patients; an Analysis of the CRASH-2 Cohort

Louise Pealing*, Pablo Perel, David Prieto-Merino, Ian Roberts, on behalf of the CRASH-2 Trial Collaborators[†]

Department of Population Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, United Kingdom

Abstract

Background: Vascular occlusive events can complicate recovery following trauma. We examined risk factors for venous and arterial vascular occlusive events in trauma patients and the extent to which the risk of vascular occlusive events varies with the severity of bleeding.

Methods and Findings: We conducted a cohort analysis using data from a large international, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial (The CRASH-2 trial) [1]. We studied the association between patient demographic and physiological parameters at hospital admission and the risk of vascular occlusive events. To assess the extent to which risk of vascular occlusive events varies with severity of bleeding, we constructed a prognostic model for the risk of death due to bleeding and assessed the relationship between risk of death due to bleeding and risk of vascular occlusive events. There were 20,127 trauma patients with outcome data including 204 (1.01%) patients with a venous event (pulmonary embolism or deep vein thrombosis) and 200 (0.99%) with an arterial event (myocardial infarction or stroke). There were 81 deaths due to vascular occlusive events. Increasing age, decreasing systolic blood pressure, increased respiratory rates, longer central capillary refill times, higher heart rates and lower Glasgow Coma Scores (all $p < 0.02$) were strong risk factors for venous and arterial vascular occlusive events. Patients with more severe bleeding as assessed by predicted risk of haemorrhage death had a greatly increased risk for all types of vascular occlusive event (all $p < 0.001$).

Conclusions: Patients with severe traumatic bleeding are at greatly increased risk of venous and arterial vascular occlusive events. Older age and blunt trauma are also risk factors for vascular occlusive events. Effective treatment of bleeding may reduce venous and arterial vascular occlusive complications in trauma patients.

Citation: Pealing L, Perel P, Prieto-Merino D, Roberts I, Collaborators (2012) Risk Factors for Vascular Occlusive Events and Death Due to Bleeding in Trauma Patients; an Analysis of the CRASH-2 Cohort. PLoS ONE 7(12): e50603. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0050603

Editor: Pieter H. Reitsma, Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands

Received: August 30, 2012; **Accepted:** October 24, 2012; **Published:** December 10, 2012

Copyright: © 2012 Pealing et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Funding: The authors have no support or funding to report.

Competing Interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

* E-mail: louise.pealing@lshtm.ac.uk

[†] The CRASH-2 Trial Collaborators are provided in the Acknowledgments.

Introduction

Venous thromboembolic (VTE) events are an important cause of mortality and morbidity in trauma patients [2–4]. The spectrum of disease varies from occult deep vein thrombosis (DVT) to rapidly fatal pulmonary embolism (PE). Although the primary rationale for the prevention and treatment of DVT is to reduce the risk of PE, DVT itself can cause serious morbidity, including permanent deep venous insufficiency, chronic post-thrombotic phlebitis, prolonged hospital stay and delayed rehabilitation [5]. Although the prevention of VTE events is an important part of effective trauma care, there is little reliable information on risk factors for VTE in trauma patients.

With the increase in the average age of trauma patients in many high income countries [6] there is growing concern about the risk of arterial vascular occlusive events following trauma. The tachycardia induced by pain and haemorrhage increases myocardial oxygen demand whilst blood loss reduces haemoglobin

concentration and myocardial oxygen delivery. Among patients in whom myocardial oxygen extraction is near maximal at rest, trauma could precipitate myocardial ischemia. Although cardiovascular events are likely to become an increasingly important factor complicating recovery following trauma, once again, little is known about the risk factors for arterial events in trauma patients.

We used data from the CRASH-2 trial to identify risk factors for venous and arterial vascular occlusive events in a large international cohort of trauma patients. The CRASH-2 trial included 20,211 bleeding trauma patients from 270 hospitals in 40 countries and because it has almost complete data at hospital admission and follow-up it provides a unique resource to examine risk factors for vascular occlusive events following trauma.

Methods

Sample

We examined data from the CRASH-2 trial, a large international, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial of the effects of tranexamic acid, on death and vascular occlusive events in bleeding trauma patients. Detailed information on the methods of the CRASH-2 trial have been published previously [1]. Overall 20,211 patients were randomised to receive tranexamic acid or placebo with 99.6% follow-up.

Outcomes

Outcomes were fatal and non-fatal vascular occlusive events including deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, myocardial infarction and stroke. To assess the extent to which factors predictive of death due to bleeding also predicted the risk of vascular occlusive events, death due to bleeding was also examined as an outcome.

Risk factors

Demographic, injury and patient physiological data obtained prior to randomisation were used as potential risk factors that might predict vascular occlusive events or death due to bleeding.

Statistical analysis

FMeans and standard deviations were calculated for continuous variables such as age and physiological parameters. Risk factors were categorised prior to analysis. Potential continuous physiological risk factors were categorised using clinically relevant boundaries, combining categories where there were too few events for meaningful analysis. Country of randomisation was categorised as low, middle or high income according to the World Bank categorisation [7]. A complete case analysis was carried out since there were very few missing data. Univariate analyses were performed using the χ^2 method. Multivariate analysis for each of the vascular occlusive outcomes and death due to bleeding were performed using a conceptual framework delineating distal from proximal risk factors to avoid inappropriately adjusting for mediating factors [8] (conceptual framework available on request). Odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals were estimated. Where appropriate, tests for trend and departures from linearity were conducted using likelihood ratio tests.

A model predicting risk of death due to bleeding was created using a backwards stepwise logistic regression starting with the inclusion of all baseline variables that had been studied in univariate analysis. The model contained an interaction term between time since injury and treatment group as there had been strong evidence for effect modification between these two variables in previously published CRASH-2 analyses [9]. The final model was used to construct tertiles of probability of death due to bleeding. We compared vascular occlusive event rates across predicted tertiles of death due to bleeding using χ^2 methods and score tests for trend where appropriate. Analysis was performed in Stata (StataCorp. 2011. *Stata Statistical Software: Release 12*. College Station, TX: StataCorp LP). All CRASH-2 collaborators obtained local ethics and research committee approval.

Results

From the initial 20,211 randomised, 20,127 patients completed follow-up (99.6%). The majority of trauma patients in this study were from low-middle income countries (97.9%) and were male (83.8%). More than two thirds of patients were seen within 3 hours

of injury (67.0%) and most had sustained blunt injury, either singly or in combination with penetrating injury (67.6%).

The risk of venous occlusive events within this cohort was 1.01% with 204 patients having either a PE, DVT or both. Within this group 123 (60.3%) patients were diagnosed with PE, 61 (29.9%) with DVT and 20 (9.8%) patients with both. There were 200 (0.99%) arterial occlusive events. There were 77 (38.5%) patients with MI, 110 (55%) with stroke and 13 patients (6.5%) with both MI and stroke. Overall, 3,076 patients died following trauma, 81 (2.6%) from vascular occlusive events, including 29 from MI, 13 from stroke and 39 from PE. There were 1,063 (34.6%) deaths due to bleeding.

Univariate analysis showed strong evidence (all $p < 0.001$) of an association between several potential risk factors and vascular occlusive events and death due to bleeding (see Table 1). In multivariate models (see Table 2), increasing age, decreasing systolic blood pressure, increased respiratory rates, prolonged central capillary refill times, higher heart rates and lower Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) predicted all three outcomes of venous and arterial occlusive events and death due to bleeding (all $p < 0.02$). In addition venous and arterial occlusive events were associated with blunt injury, whereas death due to bleeding was associated with penetrating injury (all $p < 0.05$).

The analysis of vascular occlusive events across tertiles of predicted death due to bleeding (see Figure 1) showed increasing risk of all categories of vascular occlusive events with increasing probability of death due to bleeding (score test for trend $p < 0.001$ for all vascular occlusive events).

Discussion

Principle findings

Venous and arterial occlusive events following trauma share many risk factors including increasing age, blunt injury and worsening physiological parameters. The risk of all types of vascular occlusive events was greatest in patients at highest risk from death due to bleeding.

Strengths and limitations of the study

We examined clinically relevant demographic and physiological parameters as risk factors for vascular occlusive events. These factors can all be easily measured in the initial assessment of a trauma patient. In the CRASH-2 trial, they were measured and recorded in a standardised way before the outcome was known thus reducing the potential for diagnostic bias. Because of the large sample size with minimal missing data our estimates are considerably more precise than those of previous studies. The use of a large international trauma population increases the extent to which our results can be generalised.

Use of thromboprophylaxis was not recorded in the CRASH-2 trial and may have been an important confounder of the association between age, type of injury and physiological risk factors for vascular occlusive events. It is hard to predict the direction of any confounding effect from thromboprophylaxis. It might have been that treating clinicians withheld thromboprophylaxis from patients considered at greatest risk from their bleeding as measured by poor physiological parameters including low GCS scores and this could have contributed to a greater number of venous occlusive events in these groups. The presence of head injury was not measured on enrolment forms but later as part of outcome collection thus was not used in this cohort analysis to avoid observer bias. Head injury may have confounded the relationship between GCS and our outcome measures and

Table 1. Univariate analysis* of 20,127 trauma patients with outcome data from the CRASH2 trial, showing odds ratios (95% CI) for risk factors for fatal and non-fatal venous (PE and VT), arterial (MI and stroke) and death due to bleeding.

	Totals	Venous events (%)	p value	Arterial events (%)	p value	Death due to bleeding (%)	p value
Sex							
Male	16,869	158 (0.94)	p = 0.013	161 (0.95)	p = 0.201	884 (5.24%)	p = 0.551
Female	3,257	46 (1.41)		39 (1.20)		179 (5.50%)	
Not known	1						
Age (years)							
<25	5,615	42 (0.75)	p<0.001	32 (0.57)	p<0.001	260 (4.63)	p = 0.002
25-<35	6,076	56 (0.92)		38 (0.63)		325 (5.35)	
35-<45	3,798	40 (1.05)		33 (0.87)		197 (5.19)	
45-<55	2,471	31 (1.25)		34 (1.38)		146 (5.91)	
> = 55	2,166	35 (1.62)		63 (2.91)		135 (6.23)	
Not known	1						
Time since injury (hours)							
< = 1	7,451	62 (0.83)	p = 0.138	76 (1.02)	p = 0.431	484 (6.50)	p<0.001
>1-<= 3	6,033	69 (1.14)		52 (0.86)		331 (5.49)	
>3	6,634	73 (1.10)		72 (1.09)		247 (5.28)	
Not known	9						
Type of injury							
Penetrating only	6,522	164 (1.21)	p<0.001	41 (0.63)	p<0.001	408 (6.26)	p<0.001
Blunt and penetrating	13,605	40 (0.61)		159 (1.17)		655 (4.81)	
SBP (mmHg)							
<80	3,305	55 (1.66)	P<0.001	51 (1.54)	P<0.001	543 (16.43)	P<0.001
80-<90	3,154	58 (1.84)		50 (1.59)		209 (6.63)	
90-<100	4,151	34 (0.82)		33 (0.79)		160 (3.85)	
100-<120	5,180	28 (0.73)		29 (0.56)		98 (1.89)	
> = 120	4,308	19 (0.44)		37 (0.86)		51 (1.18)	
Not known	29						
RR (per min)							
0-<20	4,845	25 (0.52)	p<0.001	46 (0.95)	p<0.001	220 (4.54)	p<0.001
20-<25	8,482	69 (0.81)		50 (0.59)		285 (3.36)	
> = 25	6,614	110 (1.66)		102 (1.54)		504 (7.62)	
Not known	186						
CCRT (secs)							
< = 2	6,809	40 (0.59)	p<0.001	28 (0.41)	p<0.001	183 (2.69)	p<0.001
3-<= 4	9,357	85 (0.91)		95 (1.02)		508 (5.43)	
>4	3,354	71 (2.12)		66 (1.97)		350 (10.44)	
Not known	607						
HR (bpm)							
0-<= 90	2,768	19 (0.69)	p<0.001	32 (1.16)	p<0.001	196 (3.77)	p<0.001
90-<= 100	6,368	33 (0.52)		35 (0.55)		125 (3.17)	
100-<= 110	3,712	33 (0.89)		34 (0.92)		148 (3.99)	
110-<= 120	3,656	41 (1.12)		33 (0.90)		217 (5.94)	
>120	3,486	78 (2.24)		65 (1.86)		326 (9.35)	
Not known	137						
GCS (total)							
Mild	13,792	104 (0.75)	p<0.001	60 (0.44)	p<0.001	493 (3.57)	p<0.001
Moderate	2,693	43 (1.60)		55 (2.04)		214 (7.95)	
Severe	3,619	57 (1.58)		85 (2.35)		354 (9.78)	

Table 1. Cont.

	Totals	Venous events (%)	p value	Arterial events (%)	p value	Death due to bleeding (%)	p value
Not known	23						

p values are likelihood ratio tests for association.

*univariate analysis with χ^2 test.

SBP: systolic blood pressure; RR: respiratory rate; CCRT: capillary refill time; HR: heart rate in beats per minute; GCS: Glasgow Coma Score; mild (13–15), moderate (9–12), severe (3–8).

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0050603.t001

inclusion in our analysis would have helped us study the role of GCS as a marker of shock separate to head injury.

As in all studies, there would have been some misclassification of both exposures and outcomes. Non-differential exposure misclassification tends on average to reduce measured associations between exposure and outcomes biasing results towards the null, although this cannot be guaranteed for any one particular study. Participating centres were asked to exercise high specificity when recording outcome data to reduce any bias but the diagnosis of vascular occlusive events may have been differential between suspected at-risk groups such as the elderly or the more severely injured which might have affected our effect measures. Despite the request for high specificity in recording outcome measures the mode of investigation and diagnostic parameters were not pre-specified thus there may be heterogeneity within outcome measurement which could weaken the association seen with putative risk factors.

Risk factors compared with other literature

Few previous studies have investigated the association between physiological parameters and the risk of venous occlusive events in trauma patients. Knudson et al [4] found no independent association between hypotension at admission and risk of DVT or PE. However, this study adjusted for major operative procedures and ventilator days which may be on the causal pathway between shock on admission and the outcome of interest. Napolitana et al [10] found that Revised Trauma Scores that include a combination of GCS and respiratory rate were associated with an increased risk of DVT. Other studies have also found an association between low GCS scores and risk of venous occlusive events [11,12] in trauma patients. Lower GCS scores could represent more severe head injury and this has been shown to be an independent risk factor for the development of venous thrombosis [11,13,14]. Head injury patients may be more at risk of venous thrombosis from prolonged immobilisation and delayed deployment of thromboprophylaxis [15–17].

Our study shows increasing age to be a strong predictor of both venous and arterial occlusive events. Other studies have also found older age to be a predictor of DVT and PE [10,12,13,18,19]. We are not aware of any previous literature on the association between age and arterial events within the trauma population. Only two other studies have looked at myocardial infarction in trauma patients and these reported incidence rates only and were not able to study risk factors [20,21]. However, the association between increasing age and arterial occlusive events in our study agrees with the large body of evidence describing increasing age as a predictor of cardiovascular disease in the general population [22,23]. With increasing age there is an accumulation of atherosclerotic disease, and rising incidence of hypertension [24] and hypercholesterolaemia [25].

We have shown that the physiological risk factors that predict venous and arterial events within our trauma cohort also predict risk of death due to bleeding and that the risk of all vascular occlusive events increases with predicted risk of death due to bleeding. Physiological parameters including respiratory rate, heart rate, systolic blood pressure and level of consciousness are used in the assessment of blood loss and classification of shock within the ATLS guidelines which are used widely in the treatment of trauma patients [26]. Increased central capillary refill time as a measure of decreased peripheral perfusion has also been correlated with circulatory shock and poor outcomes in trauma patients [27,28]. These initial physiological measures are surrogate markers of blood loss from trauma and those with greatest blood loss would appear to be at greatest risk for both venous and arterial occlusive events in our study.

Possible mechanisms

The severity of bleeding was strongly related to the risk of vascular occlusive events. As regards myocardial infarction, it is possible that this could be a direct causal relationship whereby bleeding compounds any imbalance in myocardial oxygen supply and demand thus precipitating myocardial ischemia. Indeed, this may explain the observation from the CRASH-2 trial that tranexamic acid administration reduced the risk of myocardial infarction through the proposed mechanism of reducing bleeding [1]. Trauma may illicit some of the same stressors as surgery and studies investigating perioperative myocardial infarction describe myocardial oxygen supply-demand imbalance from hypotension and postoperative tachycardia, as a cause of MI in surgical patients [29,30].

On the other hand severe trauma through tissue injury, initiates the systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS), characterised by up-regulation of the innate immune response with systemic activation and release of pro-inflammatory cytokines, chemokines, free radical products and “damage”-associated molecular patterns (DAMPs) [31–34]. Inflammation has a well recognised role in the pathogenesis of acute coronary syndromes, contributing to local plaque rupture and thrombosis within the coronary circulation [35–37]. Thus the extent of bleeding may simply be a marker of the severity of tissue damage and the resulting inflammatory response. Pro-inflammatory mechanisms may also explain why blunt versus penetrating trauma was associated with arterial events in our study as we can hypothesise that blunt trauma produces greater and more distributed tissue injury thus providing a stronger inflammatory response. Severity of injury has been associated with pro-inflammatory cytokine levels including IL-6 and IL-10 [38,39]. The interruption of inflammatory pathways may provide another role for tranexamic acid in reducing the risk of myocardial infarction in this setting. Tranexamic acid prevents the binding of plasminogen to fibrin which activates plasmin. Plasmin is not only involved in fibrinolysis

Table 2. Multivariate adjusted odds ratios (95% confidence intervals) for demographic and physiological risk factors for fatal and non-fatal venous (DVT and PE) and arterial events (MI and stroke) and death due to bleeding for 20,127 adult trauma patients from the CRASH2 trial.

	Venous events	p value	Arterial events	p value	Death due to bleeding	p value
Sex						
Male	1.00		1.00		1.00	
Female	1.29 (0.92–1.81)	0.142 ^A	0.94 (0.66–1.35)	0.730 ^A	1.07 (0.90–1.26)	0.461 ^A
Age (years)						
<25	1.00		1.00		1.00	
25–<35	1.20 (0.80–1.80)		1.08 (0.67–1.73)		1.17 (0.99–1.39)	
35–<45	1.34 (0.87–2.08)		1.50 (0.92–2.44)		1.15 (0.95–1.40)	
45–<55	1.48 (0.93–2.37)		2.28 (1.40–3.71)		1.34 (1.09–1.66)	
≥ 55	1.69 (1.06–2.68)	0.017* ^A	4.63 (2.99–7.18)	<0.001* ^A	1.44 (1.16–1.80)	<0.001* ^A
Type of injury						
Penetrating only	1.00		1.00		1.00	
Blunt and penetrating	1.66 (1.16–2.37)	0.004 ^A	1.44 (1.01–2.05)	0.039 ^A	0.71 (0.62–0.81)	<0.001 ^A
Time since injury (hours)						
≤ 1	1.00		1.00		1.00	
>1–<= 3	1.19 (0.84–1.70)		0.72 (0.51–1.04)		0.84 (0.73–0.98)	
>3	1.10 (0.78–1.56)	0.602 ^B	0.86 (0.62–1.21)	0.213 ^B	0.57 (0.49–0.67)	<0.001 ^B
SBP (mmHg)						
<80	3.67 (2.15–6.24)		1.45 (0.94–2.26)		13.68 (10.19–18.35)	
80–<90	4.20 (2.49–7.08)		1.83 (1.18–2.82)		5.79 (4.24–7.90)	
90–<100	2.07 (1.17–3.64)		1.12 (0.69–1.80)		3.55 (2.58–4.88)	
100–<120	1.88 (1.08–3.28)	<0.001* ^C	0.84 (0.51–1.37)	0.004* ^C	1.74 (1.23–2.45)	<0.001* ^C
≥ 120	1.00		1.00		1.00	
RR (per min)						
0–<20	1.00		1.00		1.00	
20–<25	1.92 (1.21–3.07)		0.80 (0.53–1.21)		0.84 (0.70–1.00)	
≥ 25	3.68 (2.37–5.72)	<0.001* ^D	1.82 (1.27–2.60)	<0.001 ^D	1.80 (1.52–2.12)	<0.001 ^D
CCRT (secs)						
≤ 2	1.00		1.00		1.00	
3–<= 4	1.46 (1.00–2.13)		1.99 (1.30–3.05)		1.89 (1.59–2.25)	
>4	3.02 (2.03–4.51)	<0.001* ^E	3.27 (2.07–5.15)	<0.001* ^E	3.51 (2.91–4.24)	<0.001* ^E
HR (bpm)						
0–<= 90	1.38 (0.77–2.44)		1.57 (0.92–2.66)		1.13 (0.90–1.42)	
90–<= 100	1.00		1.00		1.00	
100–<= 110	1.84 (1.03–3.28)		1.66 (0.95–2.89)		1.22 (0.96–1.56)	
110–<= 120	2.27 (1.30–3.96)		1.54 (0.88–2.71)		1.82 (1.45–2.28)	
>120	4.04 (2.39–6.82)	<0.001 ^F	2.55 (1.53–4.27)	<0.001 ^F	2.65 (2.13–3.29)	<0.001 ^F
GCS (total score)						
Mild (13–15)	1.00		1.00		1.00	
Moderate (9–12)	1.74 (1.21–2.51)		4.26 (2.92–6.22)		1.71 (1.44–2.04)	
Severe (3–8)	1.65 (1.18–2.32)	0.002 ^C	4.92 (3.47–7.00)	<0.001 ^C	2.49 (2.13–2.90)	<0.001* ^C

p values are likelihood ratio tests for association.

*likelihood ratio test for trend.

SBP: systolic blood pressure; RR: respiratory rate; CCRT: capillary refill time; HR: heart rate in beats per minute; GCS: Glasgow Coma Score.

^A: Model 1 includes country, sex, age and type of injury.

^B: Model 2 includes model 1 and time since injury.

^C: Model 3 includes model 2 and SBP and GCS.

^D: Model 4 includes model 2 and RR and GCS.

^E: Model 5 includes model 2 and CCRT and GCS.

^F: Model 6 includes model 2 and HR and GCS.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0050603.t002

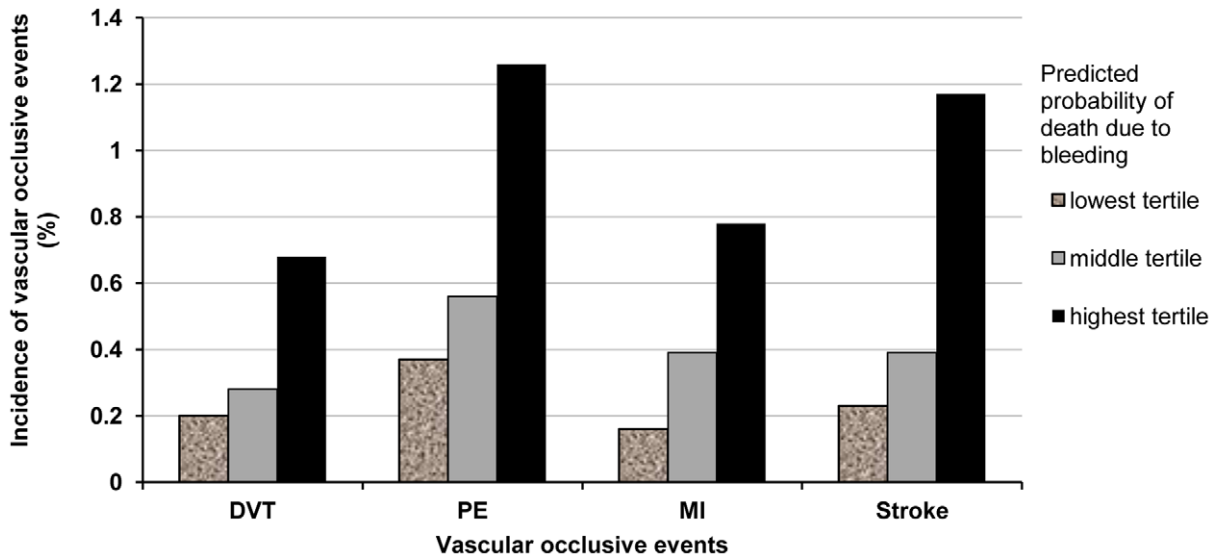


Figure 1. Incidence of vascular occlusive events by tertiles of predicted probability of death due to bleeding for 19,298 adult trauma patients without missing data.
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0050603.g001

but also activates many key inflammatory components including neutrophils and macrophages and is a potent chemoattractant for immune cells [40].

The possible mechanisms underlying venous vascular events after trauma have previously been described by Virchow's triad of stasis, hypercoagulability and endothelial cell damage [41]. Previous studies have demonstrated a hypercoagulable state days after the initial injury [42,43]. Inflammatory processes may also be playing a role in the development of venous occlusive events as there is considerable cross-talk between the coagulation and inflammation pathways [44]. In addition to the initial injury, the sickest patients will undergo multiple procedures and have prolonged hospital admission both of which can contribute to increased risk for venous occlusive events [45]. Patients with severe and ongoing haemorrhage may have been deemed to be too high risk to receive thromboprophylaxis which could result in increased venous occlusive events in these patients.

Implications of the study

Our study highlights the importance of both venous and arterial vascular events in the bleeding trauma patient. Although clinicians treating trauma patients have long prioritised stopping bleeding and preventing venous occlusive complications, clinicians should also be aware of arterial complications. Another implication of our study is that measures taken to reduce bleeding in trauma patients might in turn reduce the risk of vascular occlusive complications.

Acknowledgments

The CRASH-2 Trial Collaborators are: *National coordinators of CRASH-2 trial*—Jonathan Dakubo (Ghana), Tamar Gogichaishvili (Georgia), Nyoman Golden (Indonesia), Mario Izurieta (Ecuador), Hussein Khamis (Egypt), Edward Komolafe (Nigeria), Jorge Loria-Castellanos (Mexico), Jorge Mejia-Mantilla (Colombia), Jaime Miranda (Peru), Angeles Munoz (Spain), Vincent Mutiso (Kenya), Patrick Okwen (Cameroon), Zulma Ortiz (Argentina), Maria Pascual, CENCEC (Cuba), R Ravi (India), April Roslani (Malaysia), Stefan Trenkler (Slovakia), Annalisa Volpi (Italy), Surakrant Yuthakasemsunt (Thailand). *Trial Coordinating Centre Team*—Ian Roberts (clinical coordinator, chief investigator), Haleema Shakur (trial manager), Pablo Perel (regional coordinator), Lin Barnetson (data manager), Maria Ramos (trial administrator), Lisa Cook (assistant trial

manager, regional coordinator from 2007), Taemi Kawahara (assistant trial manager, regional coordinator from 2007), Eni Balogun (regional coordinator from 2006), Matthew Berle (trial assistant from 2007), Collette Barrow (assistant administrator from 2008), Tony Brady (programmer to 2006), Chris Rubery (data assistant from 2009), Jackie Wayte (UK nurse co-ordinator from 2008), Cynthia To (data assistant 2007–09). *Steering Committee*—Ian Franklin (chair), Brigitte Chaudhry, Tim Coats, Charles Deakin, Steve Goodacre, Beverley Hunt, David Meddings, Richard Peto, Ian Roberts, Peter Sandercock. *Management Group*—Ian Roberts (chair), Haleema Shakur, Tim Coats, Phil Edwards, Beverley Hunt, Maria Ramos. *Data Monitoring and Ethics Committee*—Rory Collins (chair), Adrian Grant, John Myburgh, Alex Baxter (independent statistician). *CRASH-2 trial collaborators by country:* *Albania*—National Trauma Centre Hospital: Fatos Olldash, Mihal Kerci, Teftik Zhurda, Klotilda Ruci; Spitali Civil Durres: Arben Banushi. *Argentina*—Hospital Angel Cruz Padilla: Mario Sardon Traverso, Juan Jimenez; Hospital Regional Rio Grande: Jorge Balbi; Hospital “4 de Junio” Dr Ramon Carrillo: Christian Dellera; Hospital Castro Rendon: Silvana Svampa; Hospital San Martin de La Plata: Gustavo Quintana; Hospital Municipal de Agudos “Dr Leonidas Lucero”: Gustavo Pinero; Hospital Interzonal General de Agudos “Dr Oscar Alende”: Jorge Teves. *Australia*—Nepean Hospital: Ian Seppelt; Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital: David Mountain; John Hunter Hospital: Zsolt Balogh. *Bangladesh*—United Hospital Limited: Maniruz Zaman. *Belgium*—Sint-Vincentius Hospital: Patrick Druwe, Robert Rutsaert; Centre Hospitalier Regional de Namur: Guy Mazairac. *Cameroon*—Tombel District Hospital: Fogang Pascal, Zognou Yvette, Djeuchon Chancellin; St Theresa's Catholic Medical Centre: Patrick Okwen; Bamenda Provincial Hospital: Jules Djokam-Liapoe; Bali District Hospital: Ernest Jangwa; Bafut District Hospital: Lawrence Mbuagbaw; Fundong District Hospital: Ninying Fointama; St John of God Medical Centre: Nguemo Pascal. *Canada*—Hamilton General Hospital: Frank Baillie. *China*—Renji Hospital: Ji-yao Jiang, Guo-yi Gao, Yin-hui Bao. *Colombia*—Hospital Universitario San Vicente de Paul, Universidad de Antioquia: Carlos Morales, Juan Sierra, Santiago Naranjo, Camilo Correa, Carolina Gomez; Hospital Universitario San Jose de Popayan: Jorge Herrera, Liliana Caicedo, Alexei Rojas, Henry Pastas, Hugo Miranda; Hospital Pablo Tobon Uribe: Alfredo Constain, Mayla Perdomo, Diego Munoz, Alvaro Duarte, Edwin Vasquez; Hospital San Andres de Tumaco: Camilo Ortiz, Bernardo Ayala, Hernan Delgado, Gloria Benavides, Lorena Rosero; Fundacion Clinica Valle del Lili: Jorge Mejia-Mantilla, Ana Varela, Mariaisabel Calle, Jose Castillo, Alberto Garcia; Clinica las Americas: Juan Ciro, Clara Villa, Roberto Panesso; Hospital General de Medellin: Luz Florez, Argemiro Gallego; Hospital San Felix ESE: Fabian Puentes-Manosalva, Leonor Medina, Kelly Marquez; Hospital Universitario del

Caribe: Adalgiza Reyes Romero, Ricardo Hernandez, Julio Martinez; Hospital Universitario San Jorge: Wilson Gualteros; Hospital San Rafael Tunja: Zulma Urbina, Julio Velandia; Clinica La Estancia SA: Federico Benitez, Adolfo Trochez; Fundacion Hospital San Jose de Buga: Andres Villarreal, Pamela Pabon; Hospital Civil de Ipiales: Hernan Delgado; Hospital Universitario Departamental Narino: Hector Lopez; Hospital Universitario del Valle: Laureano Quintero; Hospital Universitario de Neiva: Andres Rubiano; Hospital Manuel Uribe Angel: Juan Tamayo. *Cuba*—Hospital Clinico-Quirurgico Docente “Saturnino Lora”: Marjoris Pinera, Zadis Navarro, Deborah Rondon, Barbara Bujan; Hospital General Universitario “Carlos Manuel de Cespedes”: Leonel Palacios, Daymis Martinez, Yalisa Hernandez, Yaimara Fernandez; Hospital Provincial Docente “Manuel Ascunce Domenech”: Eugenio Casola; Hospital Universitario “Arnaldo Milian Castro”: Rodolfo Delgado, Carlos Herrera, Migdaceles Arbolaez, Mario Dominguez; Hospital Universitario “Dr Gustavo Aldereguia Lima”: Marcos Iraola, Omar Rojas, Alba Ensenat; Hospital Abel Santamaria Cuadrado: Irene Pastrana, Daniel Rodriguez, Sergio Alvarez de la Campa; Hospital Miguel Enriquez: Thorvald Fortun; Hospital General Calixto Garcia: Martha Larrea; Hospital Antonio Luaces Iraola: Lensky Aragon; Hospital Provincial Docente VI Lenin: Aida Madrazo. *Czech Republic*—Research Institute for Special Surgery and Trauma: Petr Svoboda. *Ecuador*—Hospital Luis Vernaza: Mario Izurieta, Alberto Daccach, Monica Altamirano, Antonio Ortega, Bolivar Cardenas, Luis Gonzalez; Hospital Jose Carrasco Arteaga: Marcelo Ochoa, Fernando Ortega, Fausto Quichimbo, Jenny Guinanazaca; Hospital de Ninos Dr Roberto Gilbert Elizalde: Ines Zavala, Sayra Segura; Hospital Naval Guayaquil: Johnny Jerez; Hospital Alcivar: Daniel Acosta; Hospital “Dr Rafael Rodriguez Zambrano”: Fabian Yanez; Clinica De Especialidades Medicas “San Gregorio”: Ruben Camacho. *Egypt*—Mataria Teaching Hospital: Hussein Khamis, Hossam Shafei, Ali Kheidr, Hani Nasr, Moetaz Mosaad, Safwat Rizk; Suez Canal University: Hesham El Sayed, Taha Moati, Emad Hokkam; Aswan Teaching Hospital: Mamdouh Amin, Hany Lewis, Medhat Fawzy, Nabil Bedir, Mohamed Aldars. *El Salvador*—Hospital Nacional Rosales: Virginia Rodriguez, Juan Tobar, Jorge Alvarenga. *Georgia*—Tbilisi State University Clinical Hospital ‘I Javakishvili’: Budu Shalamberidze, Elza Demuria, Nikoloz Rtveliashvili, Gocha Chutkerashvili, David Dotiashvili; Tbilisi First Hospital, University Clinic, Neurosurgery Center: Tamar Gogichaishvili, George Ingorokva, David Kazaishvili, Besik Melikidze, Natia Iashvili; Tbilisi City Hospital #1: Gia Tomadze, Manana Chkhikvadze, Leri Khurtsidze, Zviad Lomidze, Diana Dzagania; Tbilisi State Medical University ER Department: Nikoloz Kvachadze, Giorgi Gotsadze, Vakhtang Kaloiani; Institute of Critical Care Medicine: Nino Kajaia. *Ghana*—Korle Bu Teaching Hospital: Jonathan Dakubo, Simon Naaeder, Priscilla Sowah; Nyinahin Government Hospital: Adamu Yusuf, Alhaji Ishak; Sogakope District Hospital: Paul Selasi-Sefenu; Methodist Hospital Wench: Ballu Sibiri; Effi a Nkwanta Regional Hospital: Sampson Sarpong-Peprah; Saint Theresa’s Hospital: Theodore Boro. *India*—Medical Trust Hospital Kochi: Kanjithanda Bopaiah, Kishore Shetty, Raja Subbiah, Lukman Mulla, Anand Doshi; Christian Medical College Ludhiana: Yashbir Dewan, Sarpreet Grewal, Pradipta Tripathy, Jacob Mathew, Bharat Gupta; Aditya Neuroscience Centre: Anil Lal, Majulie Choudhury; Sri Sai Hospital: Sanjay Gupta, Smita Gupta, Arun Chug; Care Hospital: Venkataramana Pamidimukkala, Palaniappan Jagannath, Mohan Mahharaj, Ramaraju Vomma, Naresh Gudipati; North Bengal Neuro Research Centre: W H Chhang; Sheth VS General Hospital and NHL Municipal College: Pankaj Patel, Nilay Suthar, Deepa Banker, Jyotish Patel; LTM Medical College and General Hospital: Satish Dharap, Ranjeet Kamble, Shraddha Patkar, Sushil Lohiya; Government Medical College and Associated Hospitals Jammu: Rakesh Saraf, Dinesh Kumar, Satish Parihar, Rahul Gupta; MKCG Medical College: Rasananda Mangual, Alagumuthu, Don Kooper, Chinmaya Mohapatra; Christian Medical College Hospital Vellore: Suresh David, Wesley Rajaleelan, Appas; KLE Hospital and Medical Research Centre: Ashok Pang, Vivek Saraf, Santhosh Chikareddy; NKP Salve Institute of Medical Sciences and Lata Mangeshkar Hospital: Sushil Mankar, Anil Golhar, Rahul Sakhare, Nilesh Wag; Sanjivani Diagnostics and Hospital: Anil Lal, Dhiman Hazarika; Parkar Hospital: Pratyush Chaudhuri; Jeevan Jyoti Hospital and Research Centre: Prakash Ketan; Mansarovar Hospital: Govindbhai Purohit, Yogesh Purohit, Mandakini Pandya; Postgraduate Institute of Medical Science Rohtak: Rakesh Gupta, Shashi Kiran, Saurab Wallia; Goyal Hospital Jalna: Sonam Goyal, Sidhant Goyal, Satish Goyal; Government Medical College Chandigarh: Sanjay Gupta, Ashok Attri, Rajeev Sharma;

Oberai Hospital: Ashok Oberai, Mahesh Oberai, Supriya Oberoi; Rajeev Gandhi Memorial Hospital and Research Centre: Gajendra Kant Tripathi; Calicut Medical College Hospital: Vijayan Peettakkandy, Premkumar Karuthillath, Pavithran Vadakammuriyil; Krishnamai Medical and Research Foundation’s NIKOP Hospital: Jalindar Pol, Sunita Pol, Manisha Saste; St Stephen’s Hospital: Subrat Raul, Shashi Tiwari, Neileino Nelly; Government Rajaji Hospital: M Chidambaram; Medical College Trivandrum: Viswanathan Kollengode, Sam Thampam; Sanjeevani Hospital: Sunder Rajan, Sushrut Rajan; Kamineni Hospital: Subodh Raju, Renuka Sharma; Sri Sakthi Hospital: Subbiah Venkatesh Babu, Chellappa Sumathi; Bhattacharya Orthopaedic and Related Research Centre: Prottyush Chatterjee, Alok Agarwal; Sushrut Hospital: Hemant Magar, Meera Magar; All India Institute of Medical Sciences: Manmohan Singh, Deepak Gupta; GM Hospital (P): LTD: Anil Lal, Kamal Haloi; Government Medical College and Superspeciality Hospital Nagpur: Varsha Sagdeo, Pramod Giri; Government Medical College New Civil Hospital: Nimesh Verma, Ravi Jariwala, Ashish Goti; Chikitsa Hospital: Aman Prabhu-Gaonkar, Sagar Utagi; Apollo Health City: Mahesh Joshi, Ruchit Agrawal; Apex Neurotrauma and Superspeciality Hospital: Gopal Sharma, Gurvinder Saini; Neuro Center Gola Ghat: Vinod Tewari; NSCB Medical College: Yad Yadav, Vijay Parihar; BGS Global Hospital: Neelam Venkataramana, Shailesh Rao; Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute: Narayana Reddy, SG Chander; Sir Sayajirao General Hospital and Medical College Baroda: Virsing Hathila; Goyal Hospital and Research Centre Jodhpur: Vithal Das; Krishna Surgical Hospital and Trauma Care Centre: Kantibhai Agaja; Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences: Aniruddh Purohit; Niramay Hospital: Akilesh Lahari; Apex Hospital Bhopal: Rajesh Bhagchandani; Dr Jeyasekharan Medical Trust: Bala Vidyasagar; Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences: P K Sachan; Apollo Genealgies Hospitals: Tanmoy Das; Civil Hospital Gandhinagar: Sharad Vyas; Sukhdev Raj Soin Hospital: Sujoy Bhattacharjee; Sancheti Institute for Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation: Parag Sancheti; St James Hospital: T Manoj; Al Shifa Hospital: Mubarak Moideen; Anant Institute of Medical Sciences: Kailash Pansey; Vinayaka Mission Hospital: V P Chandrasekaran; Gauhati Medical College and Hospital: Kabul Saikia; Krishna Hospital and Medical Research Centre: Hoshedar Tata; Ruby Hall Clinic: Sanjay Vhora; Shreejee Hospital: Aniket Shah; Nazareth Hospital: Gordon Rangad; Ganga Hospital: S Rajasekaran; Vadamalyan Hospitals: S T Shankarlal; Devadoss Multispeciality Hospital: Sathish Devadoss; KIOT Hospital: M Saleem; Baby Memorial Hospital: Haroon Pillay; Bethany Hospital: Zulf quer Hazarika; Suretech Hospital and Research Centre: Parikshit Deshmukh; Surya Hospital: S P Murugappan; Apollo Clinic Varanasi: Amit Jaiswal; Fortis Escorts Hospital: Deepak Vangani; Gokul Hospital and Trauma Centre: Prakash Modha; International Hospital Assam: Chawngrolie Chonzik; Lifeline Multispeciality Hospital: Megha Praveen; Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre: Vijaya Sethurayar; MOSC Medical College Hospital: Sojan Ipe; MS Ramaiah Memorial Hospital: Naresh Shetty; Saykhedkar Hospital and Research Centre: Aniket Shah; Shanti Mukand Hospital: R P Gupta; Shri KM Memorial Jain Heart and General Hospital: Vinod Jain; Usha Hospital: Ketan Shah. *Indonesia*—Soebandi Hospital Jember: Moch Dwikoryanto; Sanglah General Hospital: Nyoman Golden, Kuning Atmadjaya, Ketut Wiargitha, Ketut Sudiasa, Gede Suwedagatha; Saiful Anwar General Hospital: Farhad Bal’afif; Dr Soetomo General Hospital: Vicky Budipramana, Tabrani, Agung Lemuel; Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital: Susilo Chandra; Muhammadiyah Lamongan Hospital: Faisal Ama. *Iran*—Nemazi Hospital: Ehsan Sherafatkazemzadeh, Ehsan Moradi, Alireza Sheikhii; Erfan Hospital: Ali Ziaee, Ahmad Fanaei; Loqman Medical Centre: Esmaeil Hajinasrollah; Imam Hosain Hospital: Afshin Amini. *Iraq*—Diwanayah College of Medicine: Bassim Mohammad, Najah Hadi. *Italy*—Spedali Civili di Brescia: Giovanna Perone, Elena de Peri; Azienda Ospedaliera Di Parma: Annalisa Volpi. *Jamaica*—University Hospital of the West Indies: Jean Johnson. *Japan*—Fukuoka University Hospital: Masayoshi Abe. *Kenya*—Kenyatta National Hospital: Vincent Mutiso, Benjamin Okanga; Kapenguria District Hospital: Daniel Ojuka. *Malaysia*—Hospital University Science Malaysia: Baharudin Abdullah, Hishamuddin Rahman, Yazid Noh; Sungai Buloh Hospital: Sabariah Jamaluddin, Hasnah Dawal; University of Malaya Medical Centre: April Roslani, Chee-Wei Law, P Devashanti; Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah: Yusof Wahab, Shanta Velaiutham; Ampang Hospital: Ridzuan Dato. *Mexico*—Hospital General Regional 25: Jorge Loria, Erandy Montes, Eduardo Gomez, Victor Cazales, Paul Bautista; Hospital Gustavo Roviroso: Raul Bautista, David Ahumada, Edwin Hernandez, Germahin Velasquez;

Hospital General de Uruapan “Dr Pedro Daniel Martinez”: Patricia Ortega, Gabriel Lira, Francisco Estrada; Hospital General Ecatepec Las Americas: Jorge Martinez; Hospital General La Perla: Juan Martinez; Hospital General de Ecatepec “Dr Jose Maria Rodriguez”: Julio Casasola. *Nigeria* —National Hospital Abuja: Oluwale Olaomi, Yari Abubakar, Kanati Apollo, Olawale Badejo, Ogemdi Ihekire; University of Benin Teaching Hospital: Pius Iribhogbe, Olugbenga Oludiran, Emmanuel Obeta, Collins Okojie, Ernest Udefi agbon; Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospitals: Edward Komolafe, Patrick Olaleye, Tochukwu Uzochukwu, Uvie Onakpoya; Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital: Andrew Dongo, Osas Uhunmwagho, Ehi Eighemerio, Eghosa Morgan; Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital: Lateef Thanni; University College Hospital Ibadan: Adefemi Afolabi, Titilade Akinola, Adeyinka Ademola, Olusola Akute; Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital: Lawal Khalid, Lawal Abubakar, Muhammad Aminu, Mike Ogirima; Baptist Medical Centre: Ambrose Attanse, Durodola Michael, Olaniran Aremu; University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital: Odebode Olugbenga, Udoff a Ukpong, Yusuf Salman; Enugu State University Teaching Hospital: Nene Obianyo, Chinenye Ani, Roderick Ezeadawi; LAUTECH Teaching Hospital: Oluwadiya Kehinde, Agodirin Olaide; Federal Medical Centre Makurdi: Andrea Jogo, Terna Bitto; Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital: Stanley Anyanwu, Okechukwu Mbonu; Lagos State University Teaching Hospital: Mobolaji Oludara, Michael Somoye; Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital: Bello Shehu, Nasir Ismail; National Orthopaedic Hospital Enugu: Amechi Katchy; University of Calabar Teaching Hospital: Rowland Ndoma-Egba, Ngim Grace-Inah; University of Abuja Teaching Hospital: Zunnan Songden, Abdulrahman Abdullaheem; University of Uyo Teaching Hospital: Akpan Otu, Timothy Nottidge; Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa: Domingo Inyang, David Idiapho; Seventh Day Adventist Hospital: Herb Giebel; Federal Medical Centre Birnin-Kebbi: Ramatu Hassan; Abia State University Teaching Hospital: Adeyinka Adisa; Wesley Guild Hospital: Akinbolaji Akinkuolie; Federal Medical Centre, Umuahia: Kalu Okam; University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital: Abubakar Musa; National Orthopaedic Hospital, Igbobi: Ignatius Falope; University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital Enugu: John Eze. *Peru* —Hospital Regional Docente de Trujillo: Jose Caballero, Wenceslao Azabache, Oscar Salirrosas; Hospital Nacional Hipolito Unanue: Alonso Soto, Elfi Torres, Gloria Ramirez, Monica Perez; Clinica Santa Ana: Cesar Malca; Hospital La Caleta: Juan Velez; Hospital Nacional Sergio E Bernales: Raul Yopez; Hospital de Apoyo de Sullana: Hernan Yupanqui; Hospital IV Essalud Huancayo: Pedro Lagos; Hospital Nacional Arzobispo Loayza: Diana Rodriguez; Hospital Municipal Los Olivos: Jorge Flores; Hospital Jose Cayetano Heredia: Anselmo Moya; Hospital Nacional Carlos Alberto Seguin Escobedo: Alejandro Barrionuevo; Hospital Nacional Dos De

Mayo: Marco Gonzales-Portillo; Hospital Nacional Cayetano Heredia: Edgar Nunez. *Saudi Arabia* —King Khalid University Hospital: Abdelazeem Eldawlatly, Mohammed Al Naami, Bilal Delvi; King Khalid National Guard Hospital: Walid Alyafi. *Serbia* —Klinicki Centar Srbije: Branko Djurovic. *Singapore* —National Neuroscience Institute: Ivan Ng. *Slovakia* —FNsP Ruzinov: Aktham Yahgi; NsP Poprad: Anton Laincz; NsP JA Reiman Hospital: Stefan Trenkler; Faculty Hospital F D Roosevelt: Jozef Valky. *South Africa* —Dr George Mukhari Hospital: Mphako Modiba, Peter Legodi, Thomas Rangaka; George Provincial Hospital: Lee Wallis. *Spain* —Hospital Universitario Virgen del Rocío: Angeles Munoz; Hospital Ramon y Cajal de Madrid: Ana Serrano; Hospital Universitario Germans Trias i Pujol: Maite Misis; Hospital Torrecardenas: Martin Rubi; Hospital Universitario Virgen de la Victoria: Victoria de la Torre. *Sri Lanka* —National Hospital of Sri Lanka: Ranjith Ellawala, Samitha Wijeratna, Lukshrin Gunaratna, Crishantha Wijayanayaka. *Tanzania* —Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute: Kitugi Nungu, Billy Haonga, Grenda Mtpata. *Thailand* —Khon Kaen Regional Hospital: Surakrant Yutthakamsung, Warawut Kittiwattanagul, Parnumas Piyavechvirat, Tawatcchi Impool, Santipong Thummaraj; Pattani Hospital: Rusta Salaeh; Suratthani Hospital: Sakchai Tangchitvittaya; Bhumibol Adulyadej Hospital: Kamol Wattanakrai, Chatchai Soonthornthum, Teerasak Jiravongbunrod; Lampang Hospital: Surasak Meephant; Rayong Hospital: Pusit Subsompon; Roi-Et Hospital: Phaiboon Pensuwan; Phrae Hospital: Wichanrat Chamnongwit. *Tunisia* —Hospital Habib Thameur: Zouheir Jerbi, Abderraouef Cherif. *UK* —University Hospital of North Staffordshire: Mark Nash; Royal London Hospital: Tim Harris; Leicester Royal Infirmary: Jay Banerjee; Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust: Ramzi Freij; Frenchay Hospital: Jason Kendall; Countess of Chester Hospital: Stephen Moore; Hull Royal Infirmary: William Townend; Royal Sussex County Hospital: Rowland Cottingham; Derby Hospitals NHS Trust: Dan Becker; Bedford Hospital NHS Trust: Stuart Lloyd; Royal Liverpool University Hospital: Peter Burdett-Smith; Colchester General Hospital: Kazim Mirza; Royal Lancaster Infirmary: Andrew Webster; Worthing Hospital: Suzanne Brady, Amanda Grocutt; Darent Valley Hospital: John Thurston; Hope Hospital: Fiona Lecky; Northern General Hospital: Steve Goodacre. *Zambia* —University Teaching Hospital, Lusaka: Yakub Mulla, Dennis Sakala; Nchanga North General Hospital: Charles Chengo.

Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: IR PP. Performed the experiments: LP PP DP IR. Analyzed the data: LP DP. Wrote the paper: LP PP IR.

References

- CRASH-2 Trial Collaborators (2010) Effects of tranexamic acid on death, vascular occlusive events, and blood transfusion in trauma patients with significant haemorrhage (CRASH-2): a randomised, placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet* 376: 23–32.
- McCartney J (1934) Pulmonary embolism following trauma. *American Journal of Pathology* 10: 709.
- Geerts WH, Bergqvist D, Pineo GF, Heit JA, Samama CM, et al. (2008) Prevention of venous thromboembolism: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines (8th Edition). *Chest* 133: 381S–453S.
- Knudson MM, Ikossi DG (2004) Venous thromboembolism after trauma. *Current Opinion in Critical Care* 10: 539–548.
- Alexander TC, Victor FT, Jean-Francois B, Samuel ZG, Ajay KK, et al. (2008) Venous thromboembolism risk and prophylaxis in the acute hospital care setting (ENDORSE study): a multinational cross-sectional study. *Lancet* 371: 387–394.
- Mann NC, Cahn RM, Mullins RJ, Brand DM, Jurkovich GJ (2001) Survival among injured geriatric patients during construction of a statewide trauma system. *J Trauma* 50: 1111–1116.
- World Bank: World Development Indicators. Available: <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators>. Accessed 2012 Sep 2.
- Victoria C, Huttly S, Fuchs S, Olinto M (1997) The role of conceptual frameworks in epidemiological analysis: a hierarchical approach. *International Journal of Epidemiology* 26: 224–227.
- Roberts I, Shakur H, Afolabi A, Brohi K, Coats T, et al. (2011) The importance of early treatment with tranexamic acid in bleeding trauma patients: an exploratory analysis of the CRASH-2 randomised controlled trial. *Lancet* 377: 1096–1101, 1101 e1091–1092.
- Napolitano LM, Garlapati VS, Heard SO, Silva WE, Cutler BS, et al. (1995) Asymptomatic Deep Venous Thrombosis in the Trauma Patient: Is an Aggressive Screening Protocol Justified? *The Journal of Trauma* 39: 651–659.
- Gearhart M, Luchette F, Proctor M, Lutomski D, Witsken C, et al. (2000) The risk assessment profile score identifies trauma patients at risk for deep vein thrombosis. *Surgery* 128: 631–640.
- Piotrowski J, Alexander JJ, Christopher PB, Christopher RM, Joel PY, et al. (1996) Is deep vein thrombosis surveillance warranted in high-risk trauma patients? *American Journal of Surgery* 172: 210–213.
- Knudson M, Collins J, Goodman S, McDroly D (1992) Thromboembolism Following Multiple Trauma. *The Journal of Trauma* 32: 2–11.
- Reiff DA, Haricharan RN, Bullington NM, Griffin RL, McGwin G Jr, et al. (2009) Traumatic brain injury is associated with the development of deep vein thrombosis independent of pharmacological prophylaxis. *Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care* 66: 1436–1440.
- Hirsh J, Guyatt G, Albers GW, Schünemann HJ (2004) The Seventh ACCP Conference on Antithrombotic and Thrombolytic Therapy. *Chest* 126: 172S–173S.
- Stein S, Smith D (2004) Coagulopathy in traumatic brain injury. *Neurocritical Care* 1: 479–488.
- Nekudov M, Antovic J, Bredbacka S, Blombäck M (2007) Coagulation Abnormalities Associated with Severe Isolated Traumatic Brain Injury: Cerebral Arterio-Venous Differences in Coagulation and Inflammatory Markers. *Journal of Neurotrauma* 24: 174–180.
- O'Malley K, Ross S (1990) Pulmonary Embolism in Major Trauma Patients. *The Journal of Trauma* 30: 748–750.
- Geerts WH, Code KL, Jay RM, Chen E, Szalai JP (1994) A prospective study of venous thromboembolism after major trauma. *New England Journal of Medicine* 331: 1601–1606.

20. Moosikasuwan J, Thomas J, Buchman T (2000) Myocardial infarction as a complication of injury: 1 No competing interests declared. *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* 190: 665–670.
21. Ismailov R, Ness R, Weiss H, Lawrence B, Miller T (2005) Trauma associated with acute myocardial infarction in a multi-state hospitalized population. *International Journal of Cardiology* 105: 141–146.
22. Lakatta E (2002) Age-associated cardiovascular changes in health: impact on cardiovascular disease in older persons. *Heart Failure Review* 7: 29–49.
23. Jousilahti P, Vartiainen E, Tuomilehto J, Puska B (1999) Sex, Age, Cardiovascular Risk Factors, and Coronary Heart Disease. *Circulation* 99: 1165–1172.
24. Whelton P (1994) Epidemiology of hypertension. *The Lancet* 344: 101–106.
25. Tolonen H, Keil U, Ferrario M, Evans A, WHO MONICA Project (2005) Prevalence, awareness and treatment of hypercholesterolaemia in 32 populations: results from the WHO MONICA Project. *International Journal of Epidemiology* 34: 1810192.
26. Kortbeek JB, Al Turki SA, Ali J, Antoine JA, Bouillon B, et al. (2008) Advanced trauma life support, 8th edition, the evidence for change. *J Trauma* 64: 1638–1650.
27. Chien L-C, Lu KJQ, Wo CCJ, Shoemaker WC (2007) Hemodynamic Patterns Preceding Circulatory Deterioration and Death After Trauma. *The Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery* 62: 928–932 910.1097/1001.ta.0000215411.0000292950.0000215472.
28. Lima A, Jansen TC, van Bommel J, Ince C, Bakker J (2009) The prognostic value of the subjective assessment of peripheral perfusion in critically ill patients. *Crit Care Med* 37: 934–938.
29. Devereaux PJ, Goldman L, Cook DJ, Gilbert K, Leslie K, et al. (2005) Perioperative cardiac events in patients undergoing noncardiac surgery: a review of the magnitude of the problem, the pathophysiology of the events and methods to estimate and communicate risk. *Canadian Medical Association Journal* 173: 627–634.
30. Landesberg G, Beattie WS, Mosseri M, Jaffe AS, Alpert JS (2009) Perioperative Myocardial Infarction. *Circulation* 119: 2936–2944.
31. Lenz A, Franklin GA, Cheadle WG (2007) Systemic inflammation after trauma. *Injury* 38: 1336–1345.
32. Namas R, Ghuma A, Hermus L, Zamora R, DOO, et al (2009) The Acute Inflammatory Response in Trauma/Hemorrhage and Traumatic Brain Injury: Current State and Emerging Prospects.
33. Zhang Q, Raoof M, Chen Y, Sumi Y, Sursal T, et al. (2010) Circulating mitochondrial DAMPs cause inflammatory responses to injury. *Nature* 464: 104–107.
34. Namas R, Zamora R, Namas R, An G, Doyle J, et al. (2012) Sepsis: Something old, something new, and a systems view. *Journal of critical care* 27: 314.e311–314.e311.
35. Mulvihill NT, Foley JB (2002) Inflammation in acute coronary syndromes. *Heart* 87: 201–204.
36. Carter AM (2005) Inflammation, thrombosis and acute coronary syndromes. *Diab Vasc Dis Res* 2: 113–121.
37. Lucas A, Korol R, Pepine C (2006) Inflammation in Atherosclerosis. *Circulation* 113: e728–e732.
38. Hensler T, Sauerland S, Bouillon B, Raum M, Rixen D, et al. (2002) Association between Injury Pattern of Patients with Multiple Injuries and Circulating Levels of Soluble Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptors, Interleukin-6 and Interleukin-10, and Polymorphonuclear Neutrophil Elastase. *The Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery* 52: 962–970.
39. Levy R, Mollen K, Prince J, Kaczorowski D, Vallabhaneni R, et al. (2007) Systemic inflammation and remote organ injury following trauma require HMGB1. *American Journal of Physiology - Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative Physiology* 293: R1538–R1544.
40. Syrovets T, Lunov O, Simmet T (2012) Plasmin as a proinflammatory cell activator. *J Leukoc Biol*.
41. Toker S, Hak DJ, Morgan SJ (2011) Deep Vein Thrombosis Prophylaxis in Trauma Patients. *Thrombosis* 2011.
42. Selby R, Geerts W, Ofofu FA, Craven S, Dewar L, et al. (2009) Hypercoagulability after trauma: hemostatic changes and relationship to venous thromboembolism. *Thromb Res* 124: 281–287.
43. Park MS, Martini WZ, Dubick MA, Salinas J, Butenas S, et al. (2009) Thromboelastography as a better indicator of hypercoagulable state after injury than prothrombin time or activated partial thromboplastin time. *J Trauma* 67: 266–275; discussion 275–266.
44. Levi M, van der Poll T (2010) Inflammation and coagulation. *Critical Care Medicine* 38: S26–S34
45. Martinelli I, Bucciarelli P, Mannucci PM (2010) Thrombotic risk factors: Basic pathophysiology. *Critical Care Medicine* 38: S3–S9