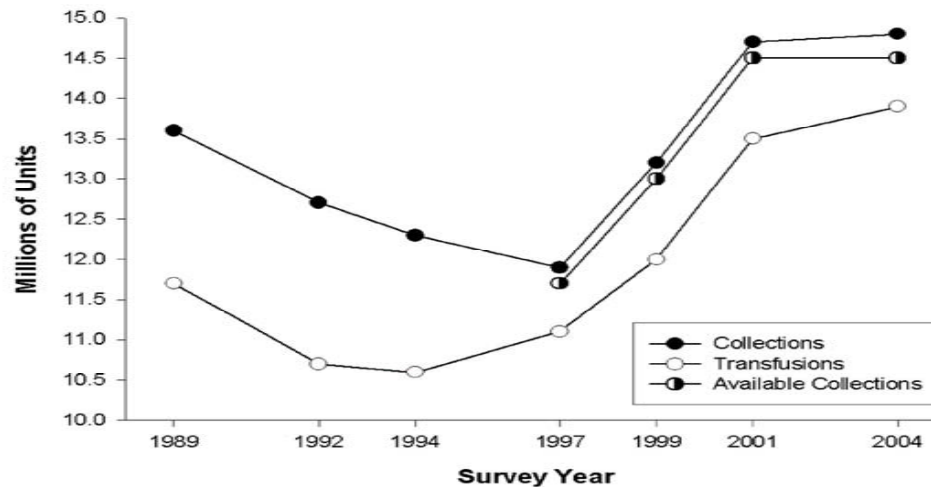


Ensuring Transfusion and Transplantation Safety During Blood Shortages

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Force on Domestic
Disasters and Acts of
Terrorism
August 22, 2007

National Blood Supply – NBCUS 2004 Data



Allogeneic whole blood and red blood cell collections and transfusions, 1989-2004.



National Blood Supply – NBCUS 2004 Data

- Shortages
 - 42% decrease in the total number of surgical procedures postponed (952 in 2001, 546 in 2004)
 - Shortages less frequent, but when they did occur they were more acute
 - Among hospitals reporting unmet blood needs, mean number of days of unmet nonsurgical blood need increased significantly from 2.1 days in 2001 to 19.27 days in 2004



Blood Supply – Day-to-day Picture

- Periodic regional shortages
 - Typically local, seasonal and corrected within a few days through collections and imports
- No national shortages



Task Force's Strategies to Meet Blood Needs

- National organizations work together to:
 - Monitor supply
 - Move blood from one region to another when needed



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Supply Data

- America's Blood Centers, American Red Cross and Blood Centers of America collect daily supply data
- National groups working together, through AABB Interorganizational Task Force, to provide HHS with joint data.



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Critical Supply Data

- Total RBCs plus
 - O pos and O neg
- Expressed as “days of supply” on regional center shelves
- At least weekly
- Reported on national basis



Moving Blood

- ABC, ARC, BCA and NBE move blood from region to region on daily basis.
- During disasters, AABB Interorganizational Task Force on Domestic Disasters and Acts of Terrorism coordinates movement of blood into affected areas.
- Task Force no longer believes our community needs a national blood reserve



Barriers to Meeting Blood Needs

- Logistics – transportation, fuel, communications
- Regulatory restrictions (e.g., during pandemic)
- Need to control usage – Triage
- Overall mass-casualty constraints



Conclusion

- Blood community can monitor supply and share data with HHS and then, with logistical support, move blood to affected regions when needed.
- Continued need to increase overall supply to 7 days

