



REVIEW ON PLASMA THERAPY IN VARIOUS DISEASES.

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Abstract: Convalescent plasma therapy is a medical technique that harnesses antibodies from recovered individuals to treat infectious diseases. The therapy's historical evolution, mechanisms, and application in various diseases, including COVID-19, cancer, and more, are extensively explored in this review. While convalescent plasma therapy shows promise in enhancing immune responses and combating pathogens, it also presents challenges such as adverse reactions, timing of administration, and limitations in neutralizing antibodies. The review discusses the positive and negative aspects of plasma therapy, shedding light on its clinical efficiency, mortality reduction, and potential complications. Furthermore, it outlines future prospects, including the need for overcoming challenges, development of alternative passive immunization strategies, and the potential for monoclonal antibodies as therapeutic options. The market overview highlights the escalating growth of the Plasma Therapy Market, driven by rising chronic diseases, increased awareness, and advancements in treatment techniques. Recent developments, case studies, and the emergence of innovative companies further contribute to the understanding of convalescent plasma therapy's evolving landscape.

Index Terms – Convalescent plasma, Antibodies, Plasma therapy

1. INTRODUCTION

Convalescent plasma therapy is a medical method used to treat individuals with a specific illness, including infections brought on by pathogens. A person who has successfully recovered from the same condition is used to draw blood for the procedure. The plasma is then extracted from this blood, which contains antibodies created by the recovered person's immune system to fight off the illness.

The patient who is currently battling the disease is then given a transfusion of the convalescent plasma that was collected and is rich in these protective antibodies. The therapy seeks to enhance the patient's immune response and aid them in more effectively battling the pathogens by injecting these antibodies into their bloodstream. As a result, the patient's immune system may strengthen, allowing for a quicker recovery and symptom. Plasma, commonly known as blood plasma, is a clear, light-yellowish liquid that serves as the liquid foundation for entire blood. It is made up of several components, including erythrocytes (RBCs), leukocytes (WBCs), and thrombocytes (platelets). The remaining plasma is 91%-92% water and 8%-9% particulates.

Plasma contains coagulants, particularly fibrinogen, which play an important role in blood coagulation. It also contains plasma proteins such as albumin and globulin, which help keep colloidal osmotic pressure at roughly 25 mmHg, providing correct fluid balance between blood and tissues.

Plasma is high in critical electrolytes such sodium, potassium, bicarbonate, chloride, and calcium, which are necessary for regulating the pH of the blood and general electrolyte balance in the body^[1]

Your circulatory system depends on plasma, the essential liquid part of blood. It is a magnificent fluid, straw-colored, that works ceaselessly to maintain your health and keeps you alive. This priceless fluid, which makes up around 55% of your blood's total volume, creates a stable environment for the coexistence of platelets, white blood cells, and red blood cells.

Your blood's total volume is composed of 55% plasma. White blood cells and platelets make up the remaining 1% of your blood's volume, followed by red blood cells at 44%.

PLASMA IS MADE UP OF...

Blood plasma is made up of:

1. Water.
2. proteins (globulin, albumin, and fibrinogen).
3. Electrolytes are liquefied salts and minerals with an electric charge.
4. Immunoglobulins (infection-fighting substance).^[2]

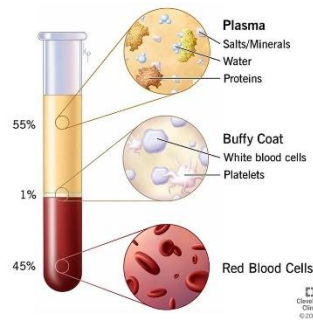


Fig.1 Composition Of Plasma

Plasma, the liquid part of blood, is a crucial component of the circulatory system, containing various essential proteins that play vital roles in maintaining bodily functions.

Albumin, one of the most abundant proteins in plasma, serves as a critical regulator of fluid balance. It prevents fluid from leaking out of blood vessels and into surrounding tissues, ensuring that essential nutrients, hormones, vitamins, and enzymes are transported throughout the body efficiently. Another significant group of proteins found in plasma is antibodies, also known as immunoglobulins. These powerful defenders form a vital part of the body's immune system, safeguarding against a wide array of infections caused by bacteria, fungi, viruses, and even cancer cells.

The liquid portion of blood, known as plasma, is an important aspect of the circulatory system because it contains numerous critical proteins that are required for maintaining biological functioning.

One of the most prevalent proteins in plasma, albumin, plays a crucial role in controlling fluid balance. It ensures that vital nutrients, hormones, vitamins, and enzymes are properly distributed throughout the body by preventing fluid from leaking out of blood arteries and into surrounding tissues. Immunoglobulins, another important class of proteins, are also known as antibodies and are present in plasma. These potent protectors are an essential component of the immune system of the body, protecting it from a variety of illnesses brought on by bacteria, fungus, viruses, and even cancer cells.^[3,4]

2.HISTORY

Convalescent plasma therapy has a long history dating back to the 20th century, where plasma from animals exposed to infectious agents was used for short-term antibody-based immunization to prevent and treat diseases. This approach has evolved over time and is now being used with human convalescent plasma to treat certain infectious diseases.^[5]

A ground-breaking medical innovation called CP therapy (Convalescent Plasma therapy) first appeared as a potential antitoxin-based treatment for illnesses including diphtheria and tetanus in the late 1890s. Emil Adolf von Behring and Kitasato Shibasabur were the innovators behind this ground-breaking strategy. They carried out tests in which they gave serum from tetanus toxin-immunized rabbits to mice, which successfully stopped the recipient animals from contracting the disease.

Based on this accomplishment, they continued by giving sheep antiserum to a critically ill diphtheria patient, who made a remarkable recovery within hours and ultimately survived. In addition to earning Kitasato and Von-Behring the renowned Nobel Prize in medicine that year, their groundbreaking work paved the way for the use of CP therapy to treat a wide range of infectious disorders. Convalescent serum quickly rose to prominence as a therapeutic approach for treating a variety of illnesses, notably those with high death rates in particular populations like children (diphtheria, tetanus, etc.) or the military (tetanus, gas-gangrene, etc.). This strategy developed over time and remained into the contemporary age, eventually leading to the use of more

specialized passive immunity techniques. These developments cleared the path for the development of more specialized and successful medical treatments.^[6]

Convalescent plasma, a passive immunization approach that has been used in the prevention and treatment of epidemic diseases for more than 100 years, was suggested and used during the recent COVID-19 pandemic. In general, the first application of convalescent plasma was during the Spanish influenza A (H1N1) pneumonia (pandemic of 1918-1920). Several studies completed during the pandemic suggested that convalescent plasma could be useful in reducing mortality risk, which was later supported by a meta-analysis undertaken by Luke et al. in 2006, which included 1,703 patients from 8 relevant publications. Actually, serotherapy from convalescent patients has been utilized for a long time, even before the Spanish flu pandemic.

For example, it was tested as a medicinal therapy for acute paralysis during the 1916 New York poliomyelitis outbreak. In 1916, Nicolle and Conseil used serotherapy to control a minor measles epidemic in Tunis. Hess employed the same treatment strategy to treat mumps and prevent its testicular consequences in 1915. Finally, the Italian Francesco Cenci is credited with being the first to employ convalescent serum as a therapeutic strategy to prevent infants exposed to measles illness.^[7]

Convalescent plasma therapy has a long history in the treatment of infectious diseases :

Before the antibiotic era, it was used to treat illnesses like scarlet fever and pneumococcal pneumonia. In 1890, researchers collected blood serum from immunized animals, which contained antibodies against specific diseases like diphtheria and tetanus. This convalescent plasma was then administered to patients to help fight off the infections and aid in their recovery. The therapy aimed to provide passive immunity to patients who lacked the necessary antibodies to combat the infectious agents. With the advancements in medicine, the use of convalescent plasma has evolved, and it continues to be explored as a potential treatment for various infectious diseases.

Period	Infectious Diseases
1890 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diphtheria • Tetanus
1900 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meningococcal Infection • Rheumatic Fever
1910 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mumps • Measles
1917 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarlet Fever
1918 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish Flu
1920 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pneumococcal Pneumonia • Chickenpox
1930 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthrax
1940 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tularemia
1950 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rabies
1976 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ebola
1979 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever
2003 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARS-COV • Avian Flu
2009 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swine Flu
2012 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MERS-COV
2013 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ebola
2019 A.D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19

Table No.1 Antibodtreatment has been used for centuries to treat infectious infections.^[8]

Convalescent Plasma Therapy, or CPT, has a long history that dates back to the 1800s, when it was initially applied to treat diphtheria in 1892. Its use was extended over time to cover pertussis and scarlet fever up to 1970. Notably, CPT was used during the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic and demonstrated positive outcomes, while there were some side effects noted. The therapy uses plasma from healthy people to treat infectious disorders, making it a major method in the history of treating such conditions.

Cellular Plasmapheresis Therapy (CPT) has demonstrated to be an effective therapeutic strategy for a number of viral illnesses. In particular, it has been used to treat cases of measles, mumps, Argentine hemorrhagic fever, influenza, chickenpox, cytomegalovirus, parvovirus B19, as well as more recent outbreaks like the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), H1N1, H5N1 avian flu, Ebola, and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARIs).

The importance of CPT stems from its potential to stop deadly outcomes in certain of these viral infections in the absence of widely accessible treatment approaches. Its clinical results for viral infections have been largely positive, providing encouragement and possible advantages in the struggle against these pathogenic organisms. CPT represents a potential strategy in the fight against a variety of diseases by removing toxic elements and focusing on plasma dangerous elements. [9-10]

3.PLASMA THERAPY

What Is Plasma Therapy ?

Convalescent Plasma Therapy (CPT) is an intriguing medical technique that includes extracting antibodies from the plasma of a person who has recovered from a specific infection. These antibodies are then injected into the bloodstream of another person who is currently infected with the same virus. Due to a variety of factors, the recipient's body may struggle to create enough antibodies to tackle the infection. By infusing the recovered individual's antibodies into the patient's system, their immunity is significantly boosted, allowing them to fight off the illness more effectively. This therapy offers promise as a prospective therapeutic option for some disorders and has piqued the medical community's curiosity due to its potential benefits. Its continuous use and refinement have made major contributions to the field of infectious disease management. [11]

MECHANISM OF PLASMA THERAPY

In addition to various inorganic salts and organic compounds, the composition of CP varies and includes significant amounts of albumin, immunoglobulins, complement -roteins, cytokines, coagulation, and antithrombotic agents. ten art from the Nabs present in CP may be able to neutralize the infecting pathogens by a variety of means, including blocking the interaction between the pathogen's membrane roteins and the host cell surface roteins, which are used by the pathogens as entry points.

Indeed, viral pathogens like SARS-CoV, SARS-CoV2, and MERS use the receptor-binding domain (RBD) of the S1 subunit in their spike protein to bind to human ACE2 receptors (hACE2). This binding is a crucial step for these viruses to enter human cells and cause infection. [6]

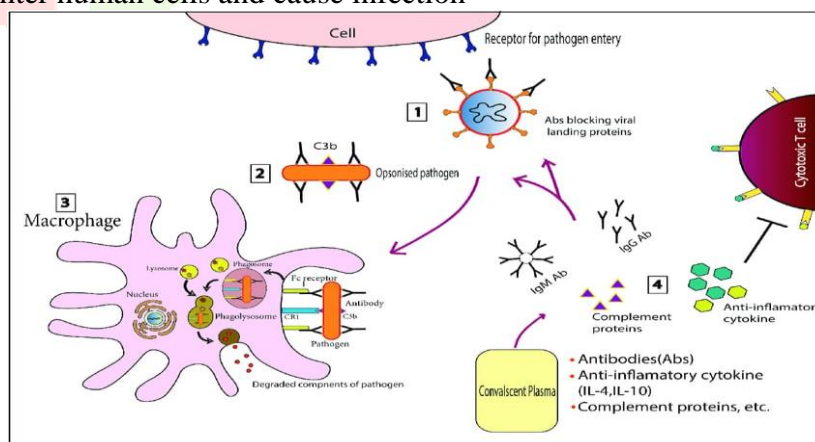


Fig.2: Mechanism Of Convalescent Plasma

4.PLASMA THERAPY EMPLOY IN THE TREATMENT OF VARIOUS DISEASES.

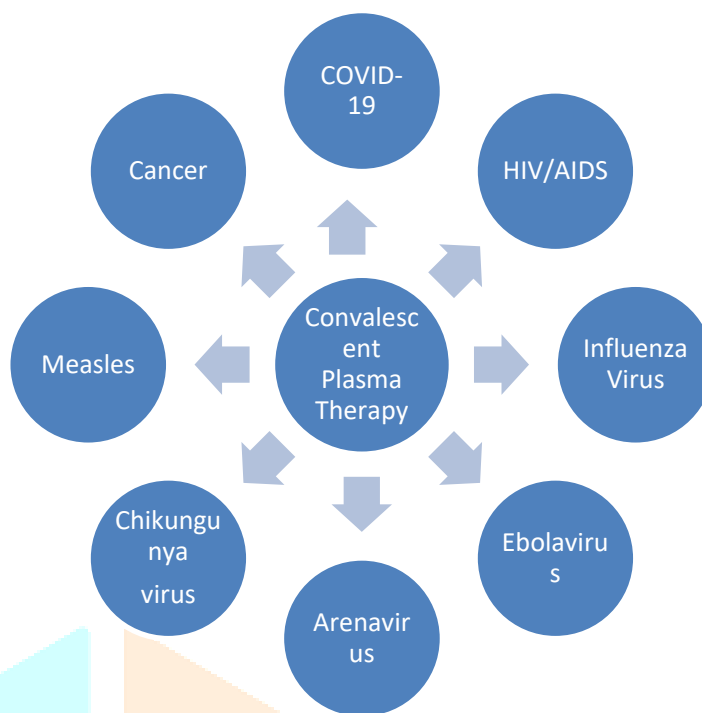


Fig 3 CP therapy in various diseases

4.1- COVID-19 –

Convalescent Plasma (CP) was suggested by a number of authors as a possible therapeutic alternative in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. This method attracted interest in particular for very ill patients who displayed protracted viremia, which was closely associated with high blood interleukin-6 (IL-6) levels. This insight made it possible to provide immunoglobulins and antiviral medications even at advanced disease stages.

Survivors of COVID-19 may have viral shedding, or the release of virus particles from the body, for up to 37 days after their recovery. Convalescent plasma (CP) donors should be screened for SARS-CoV-2 RNA to assure their security.

IgM and IgA antibodies, among others, begin to accumulate in the serum of COVID-19 patients as early as five days following the onset of symptoms. IgG antibodies can be found by day 14 and are often present by 20 days. Female patients with severe illness typically develop IgG antibodies earlier and at higher quantities. IgG1 and IgG3 are the antibody subclasses that account for the majority of the neutralizing antibody response to the virus.^[9]

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is a novel coronavirus that first appeared in 2019, causing a major worldwide health disaster. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a serious respiratory ailment with a variety of symptoms, was brought on by the virus. It was first discovered in the Chinese city of Wuhan, in the province of Hubei, and it quickly spread throughout the world. Due of the virus's quick spread and catastrophic impacts, several public health initiatives, international cooperation, and a race for vaccinations and treatments to lessen its effects have been implemented. One of the most important global concerns of the twenty-first century is the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had profound effects on economies, healthcare systems, and daily life.

Convalescent plasma therapy became a potential treatment in China and Italy at the beginning of 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. It involved treating individuals still battling the infection with blood plasma from COVID-19 patients who had recovered because it includes antibodies to the virus. It was initially applied to singular cases and limited patient populations.

The Mayo Clinic-led Expanded Access Program was put into place in the United States as the need for this treatment increased. The goal of this program was to offer convalescent plasma to more patients. Following that, the US Food & Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization that permitted patients with COVID-19 to use convalescent plasma therapy more widely across the nation. While more information is gathered, the permission gave this treatment a provisional green light.

During the early stages of the pandemic, multiple randomized controlled trials were conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of convalescent plasma therapy for COVID-19. However, the results of these trials

showed that the therapy was not effective in treating the disease. It is essential to note that many of these trials focused on patients who were already seropositive (meaning they had detectable antibodies) or were in the late stages of the disease. Additionally, some trials used plasma units with insufficient levels of antibodies, which might have impacted the outcomes. Despite these early findings, ongoing research and improvements in plasma selection are continuously shaping our understanding of convalescent plasma therapy's potential role in COVID-19 treatment.

COVID-19 Signs & Symptoms

Coronavirus transmits from person to person via droplet infection, which can be transmitted through talking, coughing, sneezing, or even singing. It has been demonstrated that it can spread across the environment via aerosols. The time of incubation for this disease has been reported to range between two days and two weeks.

If we look at the symptoms, we can see that the individual usually presents with fairly general common cold or flu type symptoms like fever, sore throat, cough, sneeze, dyspnea, and so on, which is why it was initially misdiagnosed as flu but subsequently recognized as coronavirus. Other clinical signs include anosmia, a sore throat, fever, muscular weakness, tiredness, headache, and diarrhea.

Convalescent Plasma Therapy in the Treatment of COVID-19

Convalescent plasma may potentially be used to treat severe coronavirus pneumonia. The COVID-19 pandemic had a high mortality rate from the start due to a lack of adequate treatment for the most seriously ill persons. A total of 396 plasma donations were collected from 277 convalescent donors, for a total of 396 plasma contributions. Patients were given plasma with an IgG concentration of 0.7-0.8 per 10 kg of body weight. The primary goal was to survive the first 28 days; 77% were male, aged 54 and 15.6 years (range 27-85), with a body mass index of 29.74.4; 39% had hypertension, 20.7% had diabetes, 19.5% had an immunosuppressive condition, and 23% were health workers.

Plasma was given to 54 patients (63%) who were breathing on their own with oxygen support and 31 patients (37%) who were on mechanical ventilation. The 28-day survival rate was 80%, with 90% of patients breathing on their own and 62% on mechanical support.

The WHO pneumonia clinical scale improved significantly at seven and fourteen days, as did PaO₂/FiO₂, ferritin, and LDH in the week following the infusion. There was a little occurrence of circulatory volume overflow and a feverish reaction. Plasma infusions for convalescents are practicable, safe, and potentially beneficial, particularly before mechanical ventilation is required. They represent a viable therapeutic option for treating severe COVID-19 instances until more effective medications become available.^[13]

According to studies, most patients improved their symptoms after receiving convalescent plasma transfusion, which included body temperature normalization, varying degrees of lung lesion absorption, ARDS resolution, and weaning from the ventilator between one day and 35 days. All trials discovered no mortality when patients received CPT at varying dosages. However, it was unclear if the large number of patients that lived was due to the use of multiple additional medications or CPT therapy, or a combinational/synergistic effect of both.

Convalescent Plasma (CP) has gained attention as a potential primary therapy and prophylactic for COVID-19. It involves using blood plasma from individuals who have recovered from the disease, which contains antibodies against the virus. This approach has also shown promise in treating other viruses.

When developing therapeutic strategies using CP, several crucial factors need consideration. First, the timing of CP administration relative to the onset of the disease is vital. Early treatment might be more effective in controlling viral replication and reducing the severity of symptoms.

Second, the timing of plasma donation in relation to the resolution of symptoms in the donor is essential. Donors should be at a stage where their plasma contains a sufficient concentration of neutralizing antibodies to be effective for recipients.

Third, the magnitude of the donor's disease may play a role in the potency of the antibodies present in their plasma. Those with more severe illness might have higher antibody levels, potentially leading to better treatment outcomes.

Fourth, understanding the recipient's pre-transfusion serology is crucial. Knowing the recipient's immune status, such as their antibody levels and previous exposure to the virus, helps tailor the CP treatment for optimal results.

Lastly, evaluating the donor's antibody titres is essential to ensure the effectiveness of the plasma in neutralizing the virus. High antibody titres in the donor's plasma increase the likelihood of successful treatment

Measuring the success of CP therapy should be customized to the demographic under study. Different populations may respond differently to treatment, and considering various factors like age, underlying health conditions, and disease severity is necessary.

Overall, developing effective CP therapeutic strategies demands a comprehensive understanding of the factors affecting treatment efficacy and the careful customization of approaches to different patient groups. Continuous research and data analysis are crucial to refine and improve CP-based treatments for COVID-19 and other viral infections.^[14,15,16]

4.2-HIV/AIDS

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a serious and infectious ailment triggered by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). This disease can lead to severe health complications and a significant risk of mortality, as documented by Coffin et al. in 1986. HIV presents with various clinical expressions, but it is notable for its swift transmission and elevated mortality rates, typically ranging from 2% to 6%. The primary modes of HIV transmission include blood transfusions, injections, and sexual interactions.^[17]

During the late 1980s, during the height of the AIDS pandemic, many research groups on both sides of the Atlantic started on an experimental approach to treating AIDS patients. Jean-Jacques Lefrère and his team in France conducted one pioneering endeavor. They wanted to inject warm plasma from HIV-1 seropositive people who had no visible indications of the disease into AIDS patients.

Surprisingly, the outcomes of these studies were intriguing. Patients who got these infusions have anti-p24 antibodies for several weeks. The presence of these antibodies was known to be linked to the body's immunological response to HIV. Furthermore, the treated patients saw a significant delay in the progression of future AIDS symptoms.

While the administration of anti-p24 antibodies appeared to benefit the transfused patients, the researchers noted that there were likely other factors at work that led to the reported therapeutic effects. According to the information presented by these investigators, it ties themselves. This complicated interaction of numerous factors highlighted the intricate nature of the immune response and its possible role.^[18]

4.3-Influenza Virus

In 2009, a specific influenza strain A(H1N1)pdm09 that escaped seasonal flu immunizations triggered an influenza pandemic known as the swine flu pandemic. Convalescent plasma was utilized to treat people who had severe H1N1 infections and needed intensive care. Despite being used so late in the disease's progression, convalescent plasma lowered respiratory virus burden, serum cytokine responses, and death.^[19]

Convalescent Plasma Therapy in the treatment of Influenza Virus

A male patient with severe H5N1 avian influenza and multiple organ failure was treated with cutting-edge techniques, including convalescent plasma transfusion from a recovered female donor. Over the course of 7-16 days, the patient got 5 transfusions of 100 mL convalescent plasma, as well as additional medical measures. The virus was rendered ineffective, antibodies emerged, and the patient recovered. This approach had been utilized to treat SARS cases but had not been employed for avian influenza until today. The recovery cannot be credited completely to plasma infusion, but it played an important role. Using viral inactivation and plasmapheresis, this strategy could build a treatment chain for future instances.^[20]

4.4-Ebolavirus Virus Disease [EVD]

Ebola is a severe viral disease caused by ebolaviruses. Symptoms begin 2 days to 3 weeks after infection and include fever, sore throat, muscle pain, headaches, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, and organ dysfunction. Bleeding can occur internally and externally. Mortality rates range from 25% to 90%, with an average of about 50%.^[21]

In 2001, researchers showed that convalescent plasma could work against Ebolavirus (EBV) in experiments. During the 2013-2015 outbreak in West-Central Africa, organizations and groups in the US and Europe created plans to collect plasma from recovered individuals. They aimed to use plasma with protective

antibodies, even though some uncertainties remained. They preferred using processed antibodies from plasma collected through repeated apheresis procedures. Others suggested using specific plasma for healing and clotting factors. Some plans included using prepared IVIGs for new cases. In one study, convalescent plasma alongside antiviral drugs helped two patients recover. Although the role of convalescent plasma compared to other care isn't clear, it seemed to have a positive impact^[22]

4.5-Arenaviruses

Two important hemorrhagic fevers first appeared in the middle of the 20th century: the Bolivian Hemorrhagic Fever and the Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever caused by the Machupo virus (JUNV). The 1950s saw the discovery of both viruses. Similar to this, the Lassa virus (LASV), which causes Lassa fever, was identified in the early 1970s. Prior to the development of antiviral medications, convalescent plasma therapy was initially used to treat these disorders since they all shared the characteristic of causing significant hemorrhage. There were important publications emphasizing plasma therapy's effectiveness in treating Lassa virus infections in the middle of the 1980s. These books provided vital information on the therapeutic process. Throughout this time, two important observations were made:

1. Plasma Therapy Timing: One important result was that plasma therapy appeared to offer some protection against the severity of the sickness when administered at a later stage of the disease rather than in its early stages. This finding emphasized how crucial it is to time treatment interventions properly.
2. Healing and preventing complications: Plasma therapy was found to have a twofold impact on Lassa virus infections in terms of healing and preventing complications. On the one hand, it had anti-inflammatory properties that prevented excessive vascular leakage, a defining feature of hemorrhagic fevers. On the other hand, it also included procoagulant components that helped treat the coagulation issues that are frequently related to such illnesses.

These observations provided critical insights into the potential benefits of plasma therapy in combating severe hemorrhagic fevers like Lassa virus infections. They highlighted the complexity of these diseases and the multifaceted nature of the immune response needed to counteract their effects^[21]

4.6-Chikungunya Virus [CHIKV]

Chikungunya virus (CHIKV) is a recently reemerged arbovirus that has caused a huge outbreak of infection in the Indian Ocean region and India, and it has the potential to spread globally due to the global distribution of its mosquito vectors.

In humans, CHIKV causes a self-limiting disease marked by fever, arthralgia, myalgia, and rash; nevertheless, cases of severe CHIKV infection have recently been recorded, notably in individuals with underlying conditions and neonates born to viremic mothers.

Convalescent Plasma Therapy in the treatment of CHIKV

Researchers focused on human polyvalent immunoglobulins in this study, which are antibodies collected from people who have previously recovered from CHIKV (Chikungunya virus) infection. Donor plasma samples were collected during the convalescent phase, which is the period of recovery following an acute illness.

To simulate CHIKV infection, the researchers created two separate mouse models. Using the collected immunoglobulins, these models were created to study both preventive and curative aspects of treatment.

Immunoglobulins were given to mice before they were exposed to CHIKV as a preventative measure. The goal was to see if the antibodies could keep the mice from being infected.

For the curative aspect, the immunoglobulins were given to mice that had previously been infected with CHIKV.

This was done to see if the antibodies might successfully cure and reduce the symptoms of the infection in previously infected mice.

The researchers conducted these studies to assess the possibility of the collected immunoglobulins as a therapeutic method against CHIKV infection. They were able to evaluate the influence of the antibodies on both preventing and treating the infection by using mice models, which provided vital insights into the efficacy of this possible therapeutic technique.^[23]

4.7-Cancer

Cancer is a condition characterized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of certain cells within the body. It can originate in various locations throughout the human body, composed of countless cells. Typically, cells undergo controlled division to generate new ones as needed, with aging or damaged cells naturally dying off and being replaced. Occasionally, this well-regulated process malfunctions, causing abnormal or damaged cells to proliferate inappropriately. These cells can amass to create masses of tissue known as tumors, which might be either cancerous or non-cancerous.

Plasma Therapy in The Treatment of Cancer

Cold atmospheric plasma (CAP) is a novel approach being researched to improve cancer treatment. CAP involves using ionized gas rich in ions, electrons, radicals, and excited species to eliminate cancer cells and promote healing. Unlike traditional systemic anticancer therapies, CAP can be applied locally and activate multiple signaling pathways in cancer cells, aiding in their elimination. This approach aims to reduce harmful side effects and resistance associated with conventional cancer treatments. Recent advancements in biomedical plasma have enabled scientists to explore CAP's potential in various types of cancer. [24]

4.8-Measles

Measles grants some immunity in adults who had it as children, but their antibody levels are lower than those who were vaccinated or re-exposed. Passive immunity involves transferring antibodies from one person to another for temporary protection. For measles, this happens from mother to newborn through breastfeeding or plasma transfer. Convalescent serum, taken from recovered patients, contains antibodies that can be given to those currently infected, offering swift protection if given within a few days of exposure. This method is used in managing measles outbreaks. [25]

5.Positive Aspects

5.1Clinical Efficiency

According to preliminary research, convalescent plasma (CP) therapy with high antibody levels against SARS-CoV-2 has the potential to reduce infection severity and death. Patients who received CP had better symptoms, a lower viral load, and recovered faster. Early symptoms and immunocompromised persons benefit the most from CP therapy. Antibodies that target specific areas of the SARS-CoV-2 spike glycoprotein are critical for virus neutralization.

5.2-Zero Percent Mortality

In a study, patients who got plasma therapy within 14 days of getting sick had a 6.3% death rate, and those who got it after 14 days had a 21.9% death rate for SARS-CoV-1 infection. However, in five studies for SARS-CoV-2 infection, no deaths were reported in patients who received plasma therapy.

5.3-Beneficial Effects Of Other Plasma Components

Plasma comprises a blend of organic compounds, inorganic salts, and water. Research indicates that it contains over 1000 proteins, including albumin, immunoglobulins, coagulation factors, antithrombotic agents, and complement components. These elements in plasma can have positive impacts, such as aiding patients with hemorrhagic fevers like Ebola virus infection by replenishing coagulation factors. Notably, plasma proteins, particularly albumins, play a role in maintaining the colloidal osmotic pressure of bodily fluid compartments. Additionally, studies demonstrate that plasma from healthy donors exhibits immune-regulating effects by means of anti-inflammatory cytokines and antibodies, which inhibit complement activation, inflammatory cytokines, and autoantibodies.

5.4Tolerance

Certainly, convalescent plasma (CP) therapy is generally well tolerated by most patients. This therapeutic approach involves transfusing plasma obtained from individuals who have recovered from COVID-19, which contains antibodies against the virus. This transfusion has the potential to improve clinical outcomes, particularly in severe cases of COVID-19. However, it's important to note that there can be some associated adverse effects. These effects might include allergic reactions, transfusion-related reactions, and in rare cases, more serious complications. Overall, while CP therapy shows promise, careful monitoring and consideration of potential risks are essential when administering this treatment to COVID-19 patients.

6. Negative Aspects

6.1- Adverse Drug Reactions

Various adverse effects have been documented, ranging from mild fever to severe allergic reactions, and even life-threatening bronchospasm. These reactions have been observed in individuals with cardiorespiratory disorders, renal issues, and older age. Additionally, non-infectious risks related to transfusions include conditions like transfusion-related acute lung injury, circulatory overload, and transfusion-related dyspnea. These reactions, such as bronchospasm, could worsen respiratory symptoms in COVID-19 patients. There are also reactions akin to transfusion responses, like a temporary increase in body temperature of 0.5°C to 1.5°C within two hours of receiving the transfusion.

6.2- Immunological Reaction

The administration of plasma could result in significant allergic responses. Reacting to the components of donor plasma or serum might trigger conditions like serum sickness and anaphylaxis, which could also be linked to bronchospasm.

6.3- Risk Of Transfusion Associated Infections

While extremely uncommon, the administration of blood products can pose a risk of transmitting potential pathogens. These pathogens include hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV), *Treponema pallidum*, and even the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Therefore, it is mandatory to screen for the presence of these pathogens to prevent the possibility of infections linked to transfusions.

6.4- Risk Of Reinfection

Passive administration of convalescent plasma (CP), which contains antibodies from individuals who have recovered from SARS-CoV-2, can potentially dampen or weaken the recipient's humoral immune response. This could lead to a reduction in the production of pathogen-specific antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. Consequently, this suppression of antibody synthesis might render an individual more vulnerable to reinfection by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

6.5- Antibody Dependent Enhancement

Antibody dependent enhancement (ADE) is a rare scenario where antibodies from donor plasma can unintentionally worsen a disease by aiding the virus in entering host cells and multiplying within them.

6.6- Other Adverse Reactions

In the course of studying CP therapy, an interesting observation came to light. Specifically, in one patient undergoing this therapy, a temporary facial red spot, described as "evanescent," was noted. Additionally, instances of phlebitis, an inflammation of veins, and generalized jaundice, a yellowing of the skin and eyes, were reported in a subset of patients as well. These findings provide valuable insights into the potential effects of CP therapy and underscore the importance of closely monitoring patients for various reactions during treatment. ^[26]

7. Limitations...

7.1- Time Of Administration

An additional critical constraint in utilizing convalescent plasma (CP) for infected patients is the timing of its administration. The treatment is anticipated to yield greater efficacy if it is given prior to the patient's development of a humoral immune response against the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Consequently, conducting tests to assess the presence of neutralizing antibodies in the recipient (patient) becomes advantageous. This evaluation aids in identifying the most suitable recipients for the therapeutic application of CP, optimizing the chances of a successful treatment outcome.

7.2- Large Infusion Volume

An important drawback of CP therapy is the need for large infusion volumes. Studies vary widely in the amount of CP transfused for treatment, ranging from 200 ml to 2400 ml [1-5]. There's no consistent standard for the transfusion dose, leading to varying doses used in different studies. For instance, Zhang et al. used doses ranging from 200 ml to 2400 ml based on the patient, while Duan et al. administered a fixed 200 ml unit of CP.

7.3-Lack Of Neutralizing Antibodies In Patient Plasma

People who recently got better from SARS-CoV-2 can give their plasma to help treat COVID-19. But it's important that they have strong neutralizing antibodies in their plasma. However, not everyone who recovers from SARS-CoV-2 has enough antibodies. About 30% of them have very low levels. Also, these antibodies don't stay in the body for long – just a few weeks or months.

7.4-Bridging The Gap Between COVID-19 Positive & Recover Cases

Every day, numerous countries are witnessing a significant increase in the number of COVID-19 positive cases. However, the count of individuals recovering from SARS-CoV-2 infection remains notably lower in comparison. Consequently, meeting the demand for a substantial amount of plasma, required to treat the growing number of cases, becomes extremely challenging. Closing the disparity between recovered cases and new infections poses a formidable obstacle, potentially rendering the feasibility of this treatment avenue questionable due to the scarcity of convalescent plasma.

7.5-Basic Administrative & Logical Barriers

Significant challenges arise in the process, such as the identification, consent, collection, and testing of donors. A crucial obstacle is locating donors with strong immune responses, particularly those exhibiting high levels of desired antibodies. The absence of a suitable assay technique for pinpointing neutralizing antibodies could impede the search for ideal donors. Another noteworthy challenge pertains to obtaining written informed consent from individuals who have recently recuperated from COVID-19, which stands as an additional hurdle.

7.6-Donor's Eligibility Criteria

When individuals consent to donating plasma for the purpose of using convalescent plasma (CP) to treat COVID-19 patients, they need to fulfill the eligibility criteria established for standard blood donation. This ensures that the donated plasma is safe for use. One key requirement is that donors must test negative for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19. Additionally, it's crucial that donors are free from any symptoms of COVID-19 at the time of donation.

A challenge that arises when using convalescent plasma is the variability in the specificities and titers of antibodies present in the donated plasma. Antibodies are proteins that help the immune system fight off infections. Different individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 may develop varying types and levels of antibodies in their plasma. This variability can influence the effectiveness of the convalescent plasma treatment for recipients, as the potency of the antibodies can differ from donor to donor. In essence, ensuring that donors meet the necessary eligibility criteria and acknowledging the variability in antibody types and levels among donors are important factors to consider when using convalescent plasma as a treatment for COVID-19 patients.

1. Declining Of Plasma Absorption

The evolution of SARS-CoV-2 can lead to mutations in its spike protein, potentially reducing the effectiveness of plasma antibodies and raising concerns about immunity from infection or vaccination. However, other immune components and booster vaccines can help maintain protection.^[27]

Future Prospective

- Overcoming challenges crucial for CP therapy's viability and global acceptance.
- Addressing local beliefs and attitudes is essential.
- During epidemics/pandemics, seek alternative passive immunization strategies.
- Intravenous immunoglobulin as therapy for severe COVID-19 cases, reducing hospital stays and mortality.
- Availability, cost, and scale constraints limit intravenous immunoglobulin use during pandemics.
- Trusted CP therapy could be supplemented by producing concentrated COVID-19 hyperimmune globulin (H-Ig).
- H-Ig demonstrated effectiveness in H1N1 pandemic, reducing viral load and mortality.
- Feasibility of H-Ig preparation already established.
- Research needed for developing monoclonal antibodies as therapeutic option^[28]

8. Market Overview

The Plasma Therapy Market is on a dynamic growth trajectory due to various factors such as the growing prevalence of chronic illnesses, increased awareness about plasma therapy's advantages, and advancements in treatment techniques. Forecasts indicate a substantial rise in the Global Market for plasma therapy, with an anticipated compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14% over the next ten years. This expansion is projected to elevate market revenue from \$297.6 million in 2022 to an estimated \$967.78 million by 2030.

Top Companies In Global Plasma Therapy Market

1. Terumo
2. Arthrex
3. Zimmer
4. Depuy Synthes
5. Emcyte
6. Regen Lab
7. ISTO Biologics
8. Cesca Therapeutics
9. Weigao

9. Top Market Trends:

9.1- The increasing prevalence of chronic diseases

The rise in chronic conditions like arthritis is propelling the expansion of the Plasma Therapy Market. This form of treatment has the potential to enhance the well-being of individuals dealing with chronic ailments by alleviating pain and inflammation.

9.2- The rising awareness of benefits plasma therapy

The market is experiencing growth due to the increasing recognition of the advantages offered by plasma therapy. This treatment method, known for its safety and effectiveness, is gaining traction as a favored choice for addressing a diverse range of health conditions. This surge in popularity can be attributed to the spreading awareness of its numerous benefits among a widening audience.

9.3- The development of new plasma therapy techniques

The expansion of the market is being propelled by the ongoing advancements in plasma therapy techniques, marked by the creation of innovative and refined approaches. These novel techniques are not only enhancing the efficacy of plasma therapy but also simplifying its administration process. This evolution is generating a surge in demand for the treatment, as the newfound effectiveness and ease of application are driving an upswing in interest from individuals seeking this form of therapy.

10. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The year 2022 witnessed a significant milestone as the FDA granted approval for utilizing plasma therapy in addressing chronic knee pain. This regulatory endorsement stands as a pivotal achievement for the Plasma Therapy Market, poised to propel heightened expansion in the years ahead.

Moving into 2023, a groundbreaking study surfaced, demonstrating the efficacy of plasma therapy in mitigating heart disease. This study's unique contribution lies in its revelation that plasma therapy holds potential as a treatment for heart ailments, sparking substantial interest within the market.

Simultaneously, a wave of fresh entrants is making their mark on the Plasma Therapy Market. These emerging companies are dedicated to pioneering inventive plasma therapy techniques, a development anticipated to provide a further impetus to market growth in the foreseeable future^[29]

11. Case Study

On March 27, 2020, a 68-year-old man arrived at the hospital with a fever that had started 7 days prior to admission. He tested positive for COVID-19 through a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test, with cycle threshold (CT) values indicating the viral load in different genes. Despite a normal chest X-ray, his body temperature reached 40°C. He was started on hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir. Pneumonia was detected in his X-ray on the third day, and his breathing difficulties worsened. By the 5th day, he needed high-flow nasal oxygen support.

By the 9th day, his pneumonia worsened further, and his blood oxygen levels dropped significantly. He underwent convalescent plasma (CP) transfusion and was put on mechanical ventilation. He received plasma from a donor with a different blood type (ABO mismatch) but showed improvement in respiratory distress and fever for 3 days. His oxygen levels and X-ray improved, but 4 days later, he experienced respiratory distress again. This time, his blood's clotting function was impaired, and he was treated for potential pulmonary vein clot using intravenous heparin.

His treatment included colistin inhalation, meropenem antibiotics, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), and dexamethasone. After 12 days on ECMO, he recovered and was discharged without complications. When leaving the hospital, tests did not detect the virus in his upper respiratory tract secretions. The case demonstrates the challenges and interventions in managing severe COVID-19 infection with various complications.^[30]

12. Conclusion

In conclusion, convalescent plasma therapy offers a historical approach utilizing antibodies from recovered individuals to treat infectious diseases. Despite its potential benefits in reducing mortality and leveraging protective antibodies, challenges like adverse reactions, immunological concerns, and timing limitations persist. To enhance its efficacy, addressing these obstacles, exploring alternative strategies, and advancing specialized treatments like monoclonal antibodies are crucial. Ongoing research and evaluation are key to fully harnessing convalescent plasma therapy's potential in the ever-evolving landscape of medical advancements.

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