Thromboelastography and rotational thromboelastometry in bleeding patients with coagulopathy: Practice management guideline from the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma

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BACKGROUND:	Assessment of the immediate need for specific blood product transfusions in acutely bleeding patients is challenging. Clinical as- sessment and commonly used coagulation tests are inaccurate and time-consuming. The goal of this practice management guide-
	line was to evaluate the role of the viscoelasticity tests, which are thromboelastography (TEG) and rotational thromboelastometry
	(ROTEM), in the management of acutely bleeding trauma, surgical, and critically ill patients.
METHODS:	Systematic review and meta-analyses of manuscripts comparing TEG/ROTEM with non-TEG/ROTEM-guided blood products
	transfusions strategies were performed. The Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation methodol-
	ogy was applied to assess the level of evidence and create recommendations for TEG/ROTEM-guided blood product transfusions
	in adult trauma, surgical, and critically ill patients.
RESULTS:	Using TEG/ROTEM-guided blood transfusions in acutely bleeding trauma, surgical, and critically ill patients was associated with a
	tendency to fewer blood product transfusions in all populations. Thromboelastography/ROTEM-guided transfusions were associ-
	ated with a reduced number of additional invasive hemostatic interventions (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) in surgical pa-
	tients. Thromboelastography/ROTEM-guided transfusions were associated with a reduction in mortality in trauma patients.
CONCLUSION:	In patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy, we conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided
	transfusions, compared with traditional coagulation parameters, to guide blood component transfusions in each of the following
	three groups: adult trauma patients, adult surgical patients, and adult patients with critical illness. (J Trauma Acute Care Surg.
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LEVEL OF EVIDENCE:	Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis, level III.
KEY WORDS:	Thromboelastography; TEG; rotational thromboelastometry; ROTEM; hemorrhage.

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- The study was presented at the 33nd EAST Annual Scientific Assembly, January 17, 2020, in Orlando, Florida.
- Supplemental digital content is available for this article. Direct URL citations appear in the printed text, and links to the digital files are provided in the HTML text of this article on the journal's Web site (www.jtrauma.com).
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anagement of acutely bleeding patients consists of definitive control of the bleeding source, restoration of blood volume, and correction of any associated coagulopathy. The assessment of the coagulopathy and prediction of blood component transfusion requirements in patients with ongoing hemorrhage in real time are challenging.¹ The standard coagulation assays commonly used in clinical practice, which are prothrombin time (PT), international normalized ratio (INR), activated partial prothrombin time (PTT), platelet count (PLT), and fibrinogen (Fibr), frequently provide inadequate information about clinically significant coagulopathy and the degree of blood loss.^{2–4} These assays were originally created to assess coagulation profiles in patients with inherent deficiency of coagulation factors, not in patients with acute bleeding.^{1,5} These tests are frequently inaccurate in predicting blood component transfusion needs and do not accurately reflect coagulopathy in patients with hypothermia and acidosis.¹

In contrast to the routine coagulation assays, thromboelastography (TEG) and rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM) assess viscoelastic clot strength in real time as an ongoing process rather than reflecting individual steps of the coagulation cascade.^{6–8} In addition, TEG/ROTEM can detect the timing and extent of fibrinolysis, which is not accurately estimated by standard coagulation tests.⁹

The most recent Cochrane systematic review analyzed 17 randomized controlled trials (RCTs) that evaluated utilization of TEG/ROTEM-guided blood product transfusions in adult and pediatric populations.¹⁰ The authors concluded that TEG/ROTEM-guided resuscitation may reduce both the transfusion of blood products and associated morbidity.

Taking into consideration the growing interest in the usage of viscoelastic methods in various types of surgical patients, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma Practice Management Guidelines Committee aimed to formulate recommendations regarding TEG/ROTEM-guided blood product transfusions in adult trauma, surgical, and critically ill patients with ongoing bleeding.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this review was to evaluate outcomes in acutely bleeding adult trauma, surgical, and critically ill patients with concern for significant coagulopathy in whom either TEG or ROTEM (TEG/ROTEM) was used to guide blood product transfusions and compare them with patients in whom no TEG/ROTEM was used to guide transfusions. The Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) methodology was used to assess the level of existing evidence and create recommendations.¹¹ The Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma working group performed a systematic review and meta-analysis of the relevant clinical studies.

The following Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcomes (PICO) questions were developed by the working group:

1. PICO 1

In adult trauma patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM transfusion strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

2. PICO 2

In adult surgical patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM transfusion strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

3. PICO 3

In adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM transfusion strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

OUTCOME MEASURE TYPE

The outcomes were proposed and independently rated by each group member on a scale of 1 to 9, and the median score for each outcome was calculated and assigned as the final score.

Outcomes scored between 7 and 9 were considered critical and included the following: transfusion of packed red blood cells (PRBCs); transfusion of fresh frozen plasma (FFP); transfusion of PLT, cryoprecipitate (Cryo), Fibr, and prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC); need for additional hemostatic interventions (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical); time to bleeding control; and mortality.

Transfusion of PRBC, FFP, PLT, Cryo, Fibr, and PCC was reported as the number of units and volume of the transfused product and the number of patients being transfused. To simplify the reporting of the results, all these outcomes were combined into one: "need for blood product transfusion."

Time to bleeding control was not reported in any of the included studies, so this outcome was excluded.

IDENTIFICATION OF REFERENCES

A professional medical librarian (J.R.) performed a search of citations in the following databases: PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Library, Web of Science, and Ovid Medline. The search was performed using the following Medical Subjects Headings (MeSH) terms: "hemorrhage," "blood loss," "bleeding," "thromboelastography," "thromboelastograph," "thromboelastometry," "ROTEM," and "TEG" (Supplemental Digital Content, Appendix 1, http://links.lww.com/TA/B804). The original literature search included articles published between January 1, 1946, and June 2019. This was subsequently updated in June 2020, to assure inclusion of the newest literature.

Randomized controlled trials and both prospective and retrospective clinical studies in adults (age, ≥ 18 years) were considered for inclusion. Review articles, meta-analyses, case reports, case series without a comparison group, and non-English language publications were excluded.

Each title and abstract was screened independently by two members of the working group, with irrelevant studies being discarded. Then, the full texts of the remaining articles were independently screened by two independent working group members. Selected studies were included for final data extraction and analysis. All disagreements between the reviewers were adjudicated by discussion and consensus among the individuals. When consensus was not reached, a third reviewer was involved as an arbitrator (Fig. 1).

DATA EXTRACTION AND METHODOLOGY

A total of 38 studies were included.¹²⁻⁴⁹ Data extraction was performed independently by two team members for each of the selected studies and entered into a Microsoft Excel 2013 (Redmond, WA) spreadsheet. The meta-analysis and creation of forest plots were performed using Review Manager (RevMan) (version 5.3; Cochrane Collaboration, Oxford, United Kingdom). Dichotomous outcomes were reported as risk ratio (RR). Continuous variables were reported as only standardized mean difference (SMD), because the outcomes of interest in the included studies were reported in different ways: units of blood product per patient and volume of transfused blood product per patient. Also, the varying definitions of PLTs, PCC, and Cryo units transfused precluded from performing calculations of mean difference instead of SMD. In the studies where the continuous data were presented as medians and interquartile ranges, means and standard deviations were calculated according the Cochrane Database Systematic Review

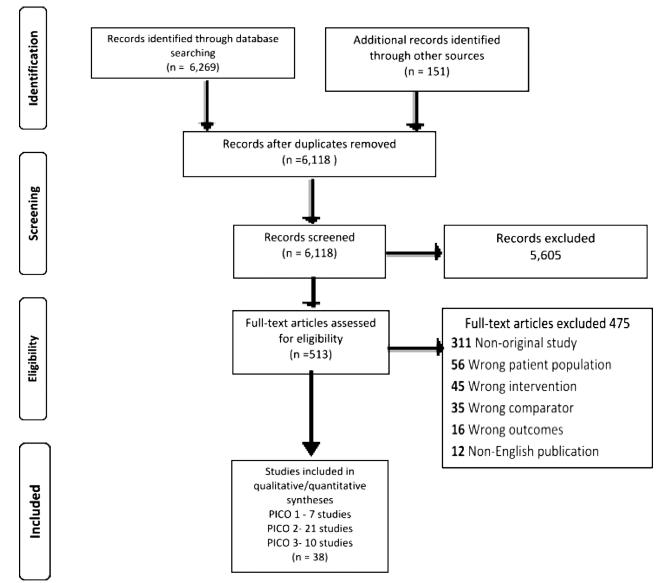


Figure 1. Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) chart.

recommendations.⁵⁰ Confidence interval (CI) of 95% was presented with RR and SMD.

The absolute effect (AE) of the TEG/ROTEM was reported for dichotomous outcomes where the beneficial effect of the intervention was demonstrated. The AE was calculated using the GRADEpro Guideline Development Tool (McMaster University, Hamilton Ontario Canada; Evidence Prime Inc. Hamilton, Ontario, Canada).⁵¹ In general, the calculations of the AE take into consideration the baseline risk and relative effect size, and use the results of the meta-analyses for this purpose. For dichotomous outcomes, the AE was reported as a number of patients with the outcome after the exposure to TEG/ROTEM per 1,000 patients. Confidence interval of 95% was presented for the AE as well.

There were no AE presented for continuous outcomes, since they all were reported in different ways in the included studies and only the relative effect of the intervention was calculated.

GRADING THE EVIDENCE

The available evidence was assessed according to the GRADE methodology as high, moderate, low, or very low quality. The quality of evidence was downgraded for observational studies, presence of bias, inconsistency, indirectness, and imprecision. Risk of bias was assessed in six domains: sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding of outcome assessment, incomplete outcome data, selective outcome reporting, and "other issues" (Supplemental Digital Content, Appendix 2, http://links.lww.com/TA/B805).

RESULTS FOR THE USE OF TEG/ROTEM IN TRAUMA PATIENTS (PICO 1)

In adult trauma patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM-guided

strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

Qualitative Analysis

A total of seven studies^{12–18} were selected to answer PICO 1: two RCTs,^{12,16} one retrospective with a control group,¹³ one prospective with a historical control groups,¹⁴ two retrospective before and after,^{15,18} and one retrospective with a control group from a national trauma database.¹⁷ The included studies contained 481 patients in the intervention group and 1,224 in the control groups. All included studies reported utilization of TEG/ROTEM based on local institutional protocols. The indications to use TEG/ROTEM differed in the included studies. Some of these indications included patients requiring MTP activation,^{12,18} any blood product transfusions,¹³ severely injured patients with Injury Severity Score of >15 who required blood transfusions,^{14,15,17} and patients with burns.¹⁶ Most of the studies evaluated ROTEM,^{13–18} and only one study evaluated TEG.¹² The intervention (TEG/ROTEM) was compared with standard coagulation assays (PT, PTT, INR, Fibr)^{12–14,16–18} and treating physician clinical assessment.^{13,15,16}

All but one¹² of the included studies showed no difference in 24 hours^{13,14} and hospital mortality.^{13–18} Gonzalez et al.¹² demonstrated reduced mortality in those patients in whom MTP therapy was guided by TEG (19.6% vs. 36.4%, p < 0.05). Utilization of TEG/ROTEM in comparison with non-TEG/ROTEM approach had an overall inconsistent effect on blood product usage, leading to either fewer transfusions of blood products including PRBC,¹³ FFP,^{13,14,16} PLT,^{13–15} and Cryo,^{13,15} or no effect of TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusions on the amount of transfused PRBCs,^{12,14–17} FFP,^{15,18} PLT,^{12,18} Cryo.^{12,18} An increase in the usage of Fibr was reported in one study.¹³

The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention to address ongoing bleeding was not reported in any of the included studies.

Quantitative Analysis (Meta-analysis)

Data from all included studies were suitable for metaanalysis. There was a beneficial effect of TEG/ROTEM usage on number of patients transfused with PRBCs (RR, 0.74; 95% CI, 0.67–0.82; AE, 251 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 319 fewer to 174 fewer per 1,000 patients), number of patients transfused with PLTs (RR, 0.35; 95% CI, 0.22–0.55; AE, 289 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 346 fewer to 200 fewer per 1,000 patients), and number of transfused PRBC units (SMD, -0.38; 95% CI, -0.64to -0.12) as well as mortality (RR, 0.75; 95% CI, 0.59–0.95; AE, 38 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 62 fewer to 8 fewer per 1,000 patients) (Table 1A, Fig. 2).

There was no beneficial effect of TEG/ROTEM utilization on the number of transfused units of FFPs and PLTs.

Grading the Evidence

The evidence was assessed applying the GRADE framework (Table 1A; Supplemental Digital Content, Appendix 2, http://links. lww.com/TA/B805). First, the level of evidence was downgraded for all outcomes because of the inclusion of observational studies. We also downgraded the level of evidence because of the inconsistent effect of TEG/ROTEM on blood product transfusions. The low number of included subjects and wide CIs led to downgrading the level of evidence for imprecision in all outcomes. Overall, the level of evidence was assessed as very low.

Recommendations for the Use TEG/ROTEM in Trauma Patients (PICO 1)

Based on the analysis of included studies, the effect of TEG/ROTEM on the selected outcomes, and the very low level of evidence, we conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy versus non–TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy in adult trauma patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy to reduce blood product transfusions and mortality (Table 2). Although the effect of TEG/ROTEM was inconsistent across the selected outcomes, the potential benefit of fewer patients being exposed to blood products and reduced mortality, combined with the lack of harm to the patient from using TEG/ROTEM, led us to make this conditional recommendation.

The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical interventions to address ongoing bleeding was not reported in any of the included studies, hence their lack of mention in the recommendation.

RESULTS FOR THE USE OF TEG IN SURGICAL PATIENTS (PICO 2)

In adult surgical patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM transfusion strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

Qualitative Analysis

Our search yielded a total of 21 studies: 8 RCTs,^{19,21,24,26,28,34-36} 3 prospective studies with historical control groups,^{23,29,38} 6 retrospective before-after studies,^{25,30–33,37} and 3 retrospective reports with control groups.^{20,22,27,39} The included studies contained 3,976 patients in the intervention group and 3,482 in the control group. All included studies reported utilization of TEG/ROTEM based on the institutional protocols. The selected studies included different populations: cardiac surgery patients,^{19–26,28,31,33,35–38} general surgery/orthopedic surgery patients,²⁷ and patients who underwent liver^{29,32,34,39} and lung transplantation.³⁰ Half the studies used TEG,^{19,24–28,31,35,36} and the other half used ROTEM.^{20–23,29,30,32–34,37–39} The intervention group (TEG/ ROTEM) was compared with coagulation assays (PT, PTT, INR, Fibr) combined with clinical assessment,^{19,21–35,38} coagulation assays alone,^{20,26–41} or clinical assessment alone.^{36,37}

Most reports showed no difference between TEG/ROTEM and non–TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategies on reoperation rate, ^{19–21,23,24,28,30,33,35,38,39} while others demonstrated a benefit.^{22,25,27,31} Utilization of TEG/ROTEM in comparison with a non-TEG/ROTEM approach had an overall inconsistent effect on blood product usage leading to either fewer transfusions of units of PRBC, ^{21–25,27,35,38} FFP,^{19,21,23,24,27,29,34,35,38} PLT,^{19,21,27,35} Cryo, ²⁵ and PCC²¹ or no difference in PRBC, ^{19,20,28,29,32,34,39} FFP,^{22,28,32,39} PLT,^{23–25,28,29,34,38,39} Cryo,^{34,39} Fibr,^{21,27,35,39} and PCC^{22,35,39} transfusions.

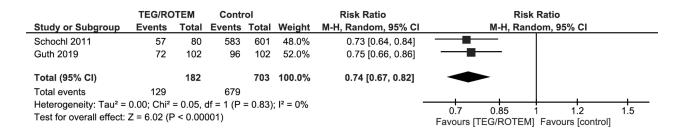
		Cc	Certainty assessment	nt			No. Patients	ients	H	Effect		
No. Studies	Study Design	Risk of bias	Risk of bias Inconsistency	Indirectness Imprecision	Imprecision	Other Considerations	TEG/ ROTEM	No TEG/ ROTEM	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	Certainty	Importance
No. patients t 2	No. patients transfused with PRBC 2 Observational studies ^{13,17}	3C Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	None	129/182 ((70.9%)	679/703 R (96.6%)	RR, 0.74 (0.67 to 0.82)	251 fewer per 1,000 (from 319 fewer	⊕⊕⊙ Low	Critical
No. transfuse 7	No. transfused PRBC units/patient 7 Observational studies ^{12–18}	nt Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	480	979		0.1/4 lewel) SMD, 0.38; SD, fewer (0.64 fewer to 0.12 fewer)	O OO Very low	Critical
No. patients t 3	No. patients transfused with PLT 3 Observational studies ^{13,17,18}	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	None	41/229 3 (17.9%)	303/703 R (44.4%)	RR, 0.35 (0.22–0.55)	297 fewer per 1,000 (from 346 fewer	⊕⊕⊙ Low	Critical
No. transfuse 3	No. transfused PLTs units/patient 3 Observational studies ^{12,14,18}	t Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	199	205	l	SMD, 0.21; SD, fewer (0.41 fewer	@000 Very low	Critical
No. transfuse 5	No. transfused FFP units/patient 5 Observational studies ^{12–15,18}	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	386	441		to 0.01 more) SMD, 0.29; SD, fewer (0.91 fewer	⊕000 Very low	Critical
Mortality 6	Observational studies ^{12–15,17,18}	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	82/466 1 (17.6%)	158/1,042 R (15.2%)	RR, 0.75 (0.59–0.95)	to 0.54 more) 38 fewer per 1,000 (from 62 fewer to 8 fewer)	O co Very low	Critical
B. PICO 2	B. PICO 2 TEG/ROTEM in Surgical Patients	gical Patients										
Certainty Assessment	ssessment						No.]	No. Patients		Effect		
No. Studies	Stud	Ri Study Design of I	Risk of Bias Inconsisten	cy Indirectnes	s Imprecisior	Risk Other of Bias Inconsistency Indirectness Imprecision Considerations	TEG/ROTEM (Intervention)	M (No TEG/ n) ROTEM)	G/ Relative () (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	Certainty	Certainty Importance
No. patients 1 14 ^{19,21–23,25,2}	No. patients transfused with PRBC 14 ^{19,21-23,25,28-31,33,5,37-39} Observational studies	ational es	Not Not serious serious	s Not serious	Serious *	None	1,889/3,721 (50.8%)	1 2,025/3,234 (62.6%)	34 RR, 0.83) (0.79–0.88)	106 fewer per 1,000 (from 131 fewer to 75 fewer)	er) ⊕○○○	Critical
No. transfused PRBC un 15 ^{19–25,27–29,32,34,55,38,39}	its	Observational N studies seri	Not Not serious serious	s Not serious	Serious*	None	3,155	2,764	I	SMD, 0.35; SD, lower (0.66 lower	er Very low	Critical
No. patients 1 14 ^{19,21–23,25,2}	No. patients transfused with FFP 14 ^{19,21–23,25,28–31,33,35,37–39} Observational studies	rvational Idies	Not Serious** serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	449/3,721 (12.1%)	1,118/3,305 (33.8%)	05 RR, 0.42) (0.27–0.65)	to 0.04 tower) 196fewer per 1,000) (from 247 fewer to 118 fewer)	0 ⊕000 r Very low	Critical
											Contin	Continued next page

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Certainty Assessment							No. Patients	ents		Effect		
No. Studies	Study Design		Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision (Risk Other Other of Bias Inconsistency Indirectness Imprecision Considerations	TEG/ROTEM (Intervention)	(No TEG/ ROTEM)	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	Certainty	Certainty Importance
No. transfused FFP units/volume 14 ^{19,21–25,27–29,32,34,35,38,39} Observational studies	/olume Observational studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	3,130	3,031		SMD, 0.58; SD, lower (0.93 lower to 0.24 lower)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with PLT 13 ^{18,20–22,24,27–31,34,38,39} Obse st	th PLT Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	871/3,622 (24.0%)	933/3,140 (29.7%)	RR, 0.82 (0.67–1.01)	53fewer per 1,000 (from 98 fewer to 3 fewer)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. transfused PLT units 10 ^{21-25,27-29,34,39}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Very serious*	None	2,850	2,463	I	MD 0.02 fewer (0.07 fewer to 0.03 more)	⊕∞∞ Very low	Critical
No. Patients transfused with Cryo 5 ^{25,29–31,39} Obser stu	th Uryo Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	144/1,063 (13.5%)	230/1,007 (22.8%)	RR, 0.88 (0.36–2.16)	27fewer per 1,000 (from 146 fewer to 265 more)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. transfused Cryo units 4 ^{25,29,34,39} Obse st No. potients transfused with Film	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	440	486		SMD, 0.05; SD, lower (0.86 lower to 0.96 higher)	⊕000 Very low	Critical
5 ^{21,22,33,35,38}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	311/2,341 (13.3%)	121/1,914 (6.3%)	RR, 2.36 (0.93–6.00)	86more per 1,000 (from 4 fewer to 316 more)	⊕cco Verv low	Critical
Fibr transfused in grams/patient 6 ^{20-22,27,38,39} Obs	atient Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	2,398	1,954		•1	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with PCC 4 ^{21,22,35,39} Obser sti	th PCC Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	235/2,306 (10.2%)	125/1,868 (6.7%)	RR, 1.02 (0.38–2.77)	1 more per 1,000 (from 41 fewer to 118 more)	⊕∞∞ Very low	Critical
No. transfused PCC units 4 ^{21,22,35,39}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	2,306	1,868		SMD, 0.37; SD, lower (1.08 lower to 0.34 higher)	@000 Very low	Critical
Reoperation 12 ^{19–25,30,31,35,38,39}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	100/3,612 (2.8%)	166/3,126 (5.2%)	RR, 0.55 (0.43–0.70)	24	⊕cco Very low	Critical
Mortality 9 ^{19,21–23,25,27,29,30,38}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	137/2,973 (4.6%)	122/2,489 (4.9%)	RR, 0.96 (0.75–1.22)	2 fewer per 1,000 (from 12 fewer to 11 more)	⊕cco Very low	Critical

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A Number of patients transfused with PRBC



B Number of transfused PRBC units/patient

	TEG	/ROT	EM	C	ontro	ol –	:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% CI
Schaden 2012	3.1	1.6	14	4.8	2.2	16	7.5%	-0.85 [-1.60, -0.10]	
Unruh 2019	6	5.2	47	11	3.7	20	10.7%	-1.03 [-1.58, -0.47]	
Gonzalez 2016	9.5	8.1	56	11	8.1	55	14.6%	-0.18 [-0.56, 0.19]	
Prat 2017	2	2.2	85	2	1.5	55	15.4%	0.00 [-0.34, 0.34]	
Guth 2019	2	3	102	6	7.4	102	16.7%	-0.71 [-0.99, -0.42]	
Nardi 2015	6.5	4.8	96	8.1	6.7	130	17.2%	-0.27 [-0.53, -0.00]	
Schochl 2011	5.5	7	80	6	5.2	601	17.9%	-0.09 [-0.33, 0.14]	
Total (95% Cl)			480			979	100.0%	-0.38 [-0.64, -0.12]	◆
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =				= 6 (P	= 0.0	008); l²	= 74%	-	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 2.89	(P = (0.004)						Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

C Number of patients transfused with PLT

	TEG/RC	DTEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% CI
Schochl 2011	7	80	264	601	24.6%	0.20 [0.10, 0.41]	_
Guth 2019	17	102	39	102	35.0%	0.44 [0.26, 0.72]	
Unruh 2019	17	47	18	20	40.4%	0.40 [0.27, 0.60]	
Total (95% CI)		229		723	100.0%	0.35 [0.22, 0.55]	◆
Total events	41		321				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.10; Chi ²	= 4.69,	df = 2 (P	= 0.10)	; l² = 57%	-	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 4.46 (F	P < 0.00	001)				0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

D Number of transfused PLTs units/patient

	TEG	ROT	EM	C	ontro	I I		Mean Difference	Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Nardi 2015	2.7	4.8	96	4.2	5.9	130	14.8%	-1.50 [-2.90, -0.10]	
Gonzalez 2016	1	1.5	56	1	1.5	55	41.8%	0.00 [-0.56, 0.56]	
Unruh 2019	1.5	1.5	47	2	0.7	20	43.4%	-0.50 [-1.03, 0.03]	
Total (95% CI)			199			205	100.0%	-0.44 [-1.05, 0.17]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =				= 2 (P =	0.11); l² = 5	5%	-	-2 -1 0 1 2
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.40	(P = (J.16)						Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

Figure 2. PICO 1. (*A*), Number of patients transfused with PRBC. (*B*), Number of transfused PRBC units per patient. (*C*), Number of patients transfused with PLT. (*D*), Number of transfused PLTs units per patient. (*E*), Number of transfused FFP units per patient. (*F*), Mortality.

E Number of transfused FFP units/patient

	TEG	/ROTI	EM	Co	ontro	d i	:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% Cl	IV, Random, 95% CI
Unruh 2019	4.5	4.1	47	4	4.1	20	18.6%	0.12 [-0.40, 0.64]	
Gonzalez 2016	5	4.4	56	6	3.7	55	19.9%	-0.24 [-0.62, 0.13]	
Guth 2019	0.5	1.5	102	5	5.2	102	20.4%	-1.17 [-1.47, -0.87]	
Prat 2017	2	2.6	85	1	1.5	134	20.5%	0.50 [0.22, 0.77]	
Nardi 2015	4.2	4.6	96	9	9.5	130	20.6%	-0.61 [-0.88, -0.34]	
Total (95% CI)			386			441	100.0%	-0.29 [-0.91, 0.34]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.47; Ch	i² = 72	2.66, df	= 4 (P	< 0.0	0001);	l² = 94%	-	
Test for overall effect:									-1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

F Mortality

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Prat 2017	4	85	7	134	4.1%	0.90 [0.27, 2.99]	
Schochl 2011	6	80	60	601	9.1%	0.75 [0.34, 1.68]	
Gonzalez 2016	11	56	20	55	14.7%	0.54 [0.29, 1.02]	
Nardi 2015	13	96	26	130	15.8%	0.68 [0.37, 1.25]	
Unruh 2019	15	47	11	20	17.8%	0.58 [0.33, 1.03]	
Guth 2019	33	102	34	102	38.4%	0.97 [0.66, 1.44]	
Total (95% CI)		466		1042	100.0%	0.75 [0.59, 0.95]	-
Total events	82		158				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.00; Chi ²	= 3.64,	df = 5 (P	= 0.60)	; I² = 0%	-	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 2.35 (F	P = 0.02)	,			0.5 0.7 1 1.5 2 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

PRBC, packed red blood cells; FFP, fresh frozen plasma; PLT, platelet. **Figure 2.** (Continued)

Most of the reports showed that TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusions reduced the overall number of patients being transfused with PRBC, ^{22,25,30,31,33,35,37,38} FFP, ^{21,22,25,30,31,33,35,38,39} PLT, ^{19,21,25,30,31,35,39} Cryo, ²⁵ and PCC. ²¹ At the same time, some studies showed no effect of TEG/ROTEM on the number of patients who required PRBC, ^{19,21,23,28,29,39} FFP, ^{19,23,28,29,37} PLT, ^{23,28,29,32,38} Cryo, ^{29–31,39} Fibr, ^{21,38} and PCC. ^{35,39}

The vast majority of the studies showed no difference in mortality between TEG/ROTEM and non-TEG/ROTEM patients.^{19,21–30,33,34,38}

Quantitative Analysis (Meta-analysis)

All studies were suitable for meta-analysis (Table 1B, Fig. 3). There was a beneficial effect of TEG/ROTEM usage

on number of patients transfused with PRBCs (RR, 0.83; 95% CI, 0.79–0.88; AE, 106 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 131 fewer to 75 fewer per 1,000 patients), on volume/units of transfused PRBCs (SMD, -0.35; 95% CI, -0.66 to -0.04), number of patients transfused with FFP (RR, 0.42; 95% CI, 0.27–0.65; AE, 196 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 247 fewer to 118 fewer per 1,000 patients), volume/units of transfused FFP (SMD, -0.58; 95% CI, -0.93 to -0.24), and on number of patients fewer; 95% CI, 0.43–0.70; AE, 24 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 30 fewer to 16 fewer per 1,000 patients).

There was no clear benefit of TEG/ROTEM on the transfusion of PLTs, PCC, Cryo, and Fibr (Fig. 3).

TABLE 2A. Recommendations	
PICOs	Recommendations
TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy in adult trauma patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy	We conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy vs. non-TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy in adult trauma patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy to reduce blood product transfusions.
TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy in adult surgical patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy	We conditionally recommend using a TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy vs. a non–TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy in adult surgical patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy, to reduce blood product transfusions.
TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy in adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy	We conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy vs. non–TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy in adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy to reduce blood product transfusions.

Certainty Assessment							No. Patients		Effect		Certainty	Certainty Importance
No. Studies	Study Design	Risk of Bias	Inconsistency	Inconsistency Indirectness Imprecision	Imprecision	Other Considerations	TEG/ROTEM (Intervention)	(No TEG/ ROTEM)	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
No. patients transfused with PRBC 14 ^{19,21–23,25,28–31,33,35,37–39} Obser stu	PRBC Observational studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious *	None	1,889/3,721 (50.8%)	2,025/ 3,234 (62.6%)	RR, 0.83 (0.79–0.88)	106 fewer per 1,000 (from 131 fewer to 75 fewer)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. transfused PRBC units 15 ^{19-25,27-29,32,34,35,38,39}	Observational studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	3,155	2,764		SMD, 0.35; SD, lower (0.66 lower to 0.04 lower)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with FFP 14 ^{19,21–23,25,28–31,33,35,37–39} Obs s	FFP Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	449/3,721 (12.1%)	1,118/ 3,305 (33.8%)	RR, 0.42 (0.27–0.65)	196fewer per 1,000 (from 247 fewer to 118 fewer)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. transfused FFP units/volume 14 ^{19,21–25,27–29,32,34,35,38,39} Obse s	lume Observational studies	Not serious	Not serious	Not serious	Serious*	None	3,130	3,031		SMD, 0.58; SD, lower (0.93 lower to 0.24 lower)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with PLT 13 ^{18,20-22,24,27-31,34,38,39} Obs s	PLT Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	871/3,622 (24.0%)	933/3,140 (29.7%)	RR, 0.82 (0.67–1.01)	53fewer per 1,000 (from 98 fewer to 3 fewer)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. transfused PLT units 10 ^{21–25,27–29,34,39}	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Very serious*	None	2,850	2,463		MD 0.02 fewer (0.07 fewer to 0.03 more)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. Patients transfused with Cryo 525.29-31.39 Obser	Cryo Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	144/1,063 (13.5%)	230/1,007 (22.8%)	RR, 0.88 (0.36–2.16)	27fewer per 1,000 (from 146 fewer to	⊕coo Very low	Critical
No. transfused Cryo units 4 ^{25,29} ,34,39	Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	440	486		200 more) SMD, 0.05; SD, lower (0.86 lower to 0.96 higher)	⊕000 Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with Fibr 5 ^{21,22,33,35,38} Obs s	Fibr Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	311/2,341 (13.3%)	121/1,914 (6.3%)	RR, 2.36 (0.93–6.00)	86more per 1,000 (from 4 fewer to 316 more)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
Fibr transfused in grams/patient 6 ^{20-22,27,38,39} Obs	ient Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	2,398	1,954		SMD, 1.0; SD, higher (0.27 lower to 1.72 higher)	⊕cco Very low	Critical
No. patients transfused with PCC 4 ^{21,22,35,39} Obse st	PCC Observational studies	Not serious	Serious**	Not serious	Serious*	None	235/2,306 (10.2%)	125/1,868 (6.7%)	RR, 1.02 (0.38–2.77)	1 more per 1,000 (from 41 fewer to	⊕cco Very low	Critical

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Grading t	the	Evidence
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The evidence was assessed applying the GRADE framework (Table 1B; Supplemental Digital Content, Appendix 2, http://links.lww.com/TA/B805). First, the level of evidence was downgraded for all outcomes because of the inclusion of observational studies. We also downgraded the level of evidence because of the inconsistent effect of TEG/ROTEM use on reoperation rate and blood transfusions. The level of evidence was further downgraded for wide CIs and the overall small number of subjects in the included studies. Overall, the level of evidence was assessed as very low.

Recommendations for the Use TEG in Surgical Patients (PICO 2)

Based on the analysis of included studies, the effect of TEG/ROTEM on the selected outcomes, and the very low level of evidence, we conditionally recommend using a TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy versus a non-TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy in adult surgical patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy, to reduce blood product transfusions (Table 2). Although the effect of TEG/ROTEM was inconsistent across the selected outcomes (blood transfusions, the need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention and mortality), the potential benefit from fewer patients exposed to blood transfusions and less blood product requirement, combined with no harm to the patient from using TEG/ROTEM, led us to make this conditional recommendation.

RESULTS FOR THE USE OF TEG IN CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS (PICO 3)

In adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy (P), should a TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusion strategy (I) versus a non-TEG/ROTEM transfusion strategy (C) be used to reduce mortality, blood product transfusions, and the need for additional hemostatic (angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical) interventions (O)?

Qualitative Analysis

Our search yielded 10 studies: 3 RCTs,^{42,43,49} 5 retrospective before-after studies,^{40,41,45,47,48} and 2 retrospective studies with control groups.^{43,46} The included studies contained 1,663 patients in the intervention group and 660 in control groups. All included studies reported utilization of TEG/ROTEM based on the institutional protocols. The selected studies included a heterogeneous population: cardiac surgery patients,^{40–42} patients with upper gastrointestinal bleeding,⁴³ cirrhotic patients,^{44,49} patients with postpartum hemorrhage,^{45,47} patients with massive bleeding of various etiologies,⁴⁶ and critically ill patients who underwent minor surgical procedures in the intensive care unit.⁴⁸ Half the included studies used TEG,^{41,42,44,46,49} and the other half used ROTEM.^{40,43,45,47,48} The TEG/ROTEM was compared with traditional coagulation assays (PT, PTT, INR, Fibr) combined with clinical assessment,^{40–42,46} coagulation assays alone,^{44,48} or clinical assessment alone.^{45,47,49}

Avidan et al.⁴² performed two comparisons. First, in an RCT, TEG was compared with standard coagulation assays, and in a second, TEG was compared with a historical control group where the decision for blood transfusion was made based

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Importance Critical Critical Critical Certainty Very low ⊕000 Very low 000**⊕** Very low 000**⊕** 24 fewer per 1,000 (from 30 fewer to V 16 fewer) (1.08 lower to 0.34 SMD, 0.37; SD, lower Absolute (95% CI) (from 12 fewer to 2 fewer per 1,000 11 more) higher) RR, 0.96 (0.75–1.22) (0.43 - 0.70)RR, 0.55 (95% CI) Relative Effect 166/3,126 (5.2%) 122/2,489 (4.9%) (No TEG/ ROTEM) 1,868**TEG/ROTEM** (Intervention) No. Patients 00/3,612 (2.8%) 137/2,973 (4.6%)2,306 Considerations Other None None None Bias Inconsistency Indirectness Imprecision Serious* Serious* Serious* Not serious Not serious Not serious Serious** Serious** Serious** Not serious **Risk of** serious serious Not Not Observational Observational Observational Study Design studies studies studies **TABLE 2B.** (Continued) No. transfused PCC units 4^{21,22,35,39} **Certainty Assessment** Mortality 9^{19,21–23,25,27,29,30,38} 12^{19-25,30,31,35,38,39} No. Studies Reoperation

on the clinical impression of the treating physician. Overall, the results were in favor of TEG-guided transfusions versus clinical assessment alone. Comparisons with the standard coagulation essays showed no difference with TEG.

Utilization of TEG/ROTEM in comparison with the non-TEG/ROTEM approach had an overall inconsistent effect on blood components utilization leading to either fewer transfusions of units of PRBC,⁴⁰ FFP,^{40,44–47} PLT,^{40,44,45} Cryo,^{44,45} or no difference in PRBC.^{44,45} At the same time, some studies showed that the non-TEG/ROTEM strategy led to fewer transfusions of units of PRBC, ^{43,46} PLT,⁴⁰ and Cryo.⁴⁶

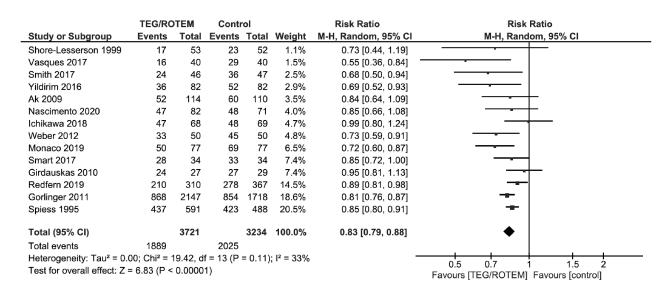
A Number of patients transfused with PRBC

Most of the reports showed that TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusions reduced the overall number of patients being transfused with PRBC,^{40,47} FFP,^{40,47,49} PLT,^{41,47,49} and Cryo.⁴⁷

The need for additional hemostatic interventions was not different in any of the reported studies.^{40,42,43,45} Three studies reported mortality, with no apparent benefit of TEG/ROTEM.^{43,44,46}

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS (META-ANALYSIS)

All 10 studies were suitable for meta-analysis (Table 1C, Fig. 4). There was a beneficial effect of TEG/ROTEM-guided



B Number of transfused PRBC units/volume

	TEG	ROT	EM	С	ontrol		:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% Cl	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Wang 2010	14.2	7.1	14	16.7	12.8	14	5.3%	-0.23 [-0.98, 0.51]	
Bakhshandeh 2016	195	72	25	271	29	25	5.8%	-1.36 [-1.98, -0.74]	
Shi 2019	1,577	364	40	2,574	514	34	5.9%	-2.25 [-2.84, -1.66] -	
Girdauskas 2010	6	8.1	27	9	7.4	29	6.2%	-0.38 [-0.91, 0.15]	
Smart 2017	4	4.6	34	5	5.9	34	6.4%	-0.19 [-0.66, 0.29]	
Trzebicki 2010	4.1	4.8	39	5.5	4.9	39	6.6%	-0.29 [-0.73, 0.16]	
Weber 2012	2	2.2	50	3	2.2	50	6.8%	-0.45 [-0.85, -0.05]	
Shore-Lesserson 1999	267	423	53	346	449	52	6.8%	-0.18 [-0.56, 0.20]	
Ichikawa 2018	840	560	68	1,120	880	69	7.0%	-0.38 [-0.71, -0.04]	
Mannikapa 2001	0.3	0.6	75	0.5	0.8	75	7.0%	-0.28 [-0.60, 0.04]	
Monaco 2019	1	3.7	77	3	7.5	77	7.0%	-0.34 [-0.65, -0.02]	
Nascimento 2020	2.9	4.5	82	2.5	2.6	71	7.0%	0.11 [-0.21, 0.42]	
Ak 2009	1	0.7	114	0	0.7	110	7.1%	1.42 [1.13, 1.72]	
Redfern 2019	2.4	2.4	310	3	2.6	367	7.5%	-0.24 [-0.39, -0.09]	
Gorlinger 2011	2	1.5	2147	3	1.5	1718	7.6%	-0.67 [-0.73, -0.60]	×
Total (95% CI)			3155			2764	100.0%	-0.35 [-0.66, -0.04]	•
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0	'		'	= 14 (P	< 0.00	001); l²	= 95%	_	-2 -1 0 1 2
Test for overall effect: Z	= 2.24 (F	° = 0.0	3)						Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

Figure 3. PICO 2. (*A*), Number of patients transfused with PRBC. (*B*), Number of transfused PRBC units per volume. (*C*), Number of patients transfused with FFP. (*D*), Number of transfused FFP units per volume. (*E*), Number of patients transfused with PLT. (*F*), Number of transfused PLT units. (*G*), Number of patients transfused with Cryo. (*H*), Number of transfused Cryo units. (*I*), Number of patients transfused in grams per patient. (*K*), Number of patients transfused with PCC. (*L*), Number of transfused PCC units. (*M*), The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention. (*N*), Mortality.

C Number of patients transfused with FFP

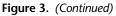
	TEG/RC	DTEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Vasques 2017	2	40	10	40	4.3%	0.20 [0.05, 0.86]	
Smith 2017	2	46	29	47	4.6%	0.07 [0.02, 0.28]	
Shore-Lesserson 1999	3	53	8	52	4.9%	0.37 [0.10, 1.31]	
Yildirim 2016	11	82	13	82	6.8%	0.85 [0.40, 1.78]	
Girdauskas 2010	9	27	25	29	7.4%	0.39 [0.22, 0.67]	
Ak 2009	19	114	31	181	7.5%	0.97 [0.58, 1.64]	_
Weber 2012	16	50	39	50	7.8%	0.41 [0.27, 0.63]	
Nascimento 2020	25	82	33	71	7.8%	0.66 [0.43, 0.99]	
Gorlinger 2011	24	2147	333	1718	7.8%	0.06 [0.04, 0.09]	
Monaco 2019	21	77	73	77	7.9%	0.29 [0.20, 0.42]	
Ichikawa 2018	39	68	48	69	8.2%	0.82 [0.64, 1.07]	
Smart 2017	28	34	30	34	8.3%	0.93 [0.77, 1.14]	+
Redfern 2019	94	310	270	367	8.3%	0.41 [0.34, 0.49]	-
Spiess 1995	156	591	176	488	8.3%	0.73 [0.61, 0.88]	-
Total (95% CI)		3721		3305	100.0%	0.42 [0.27, 0.65]	•
Total events	449		1118				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.5	58; Chi² = 2	272.82,	df = 13 (F	o.00	0001); l ² =	95%	
Test for overall effect: Z =	= 3.93 (P <	0.0001)				0.02 0.1 1 10 50 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

D Number of transfused FFP units/volume

	TEG	ROT	ЕМ	C	ontrol		5	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Shi 2019	225	42	40	428	35	34	4.9%	-5.16 [-6.13, -4.19] -	
Wang 2010	13	7	14	22	13	14	5.7%	-0.84 [-1.61, -0.06]	
Girdauskas 2010	3	8.9	27	8	10.4	29	6.8%	-0.51 [-1.04, 0.03]	
Smart 2017	4	3.7	34	6.5	7.4	34	7.0%	-0.42 [-0.90, 0.06]	
Neber 2012	0	2.2	50	4	2.2	50	7.0%	-1.80 [-2.27, -1.34]	
Trzebicki 2010	10	7	39	13	7	39	7.1%	-0.42 [-0.87, 0.02]	
Shore-Lesserson 1999	22	101	53	113	407	52	7.4%	-0.31 [-0.69, 0.08]	
chikawa 2018	480	540	68	720	480	69	7.5%	-0.47 [-0.81, -0.13]	
Monaco 2019	1,000	600	77	1,600	900	77	7.5%	-0.78 [-1.11, -0.45]	~~
Nascimento 2020	1.1	2.2	82	1.4	1.9	71	7.6%	-0.14 [-0.46, 0.17]	
Ak 2009	1	0.7	114	0	0.7	110	7.6%	1.42 [1.13, 1.72]	
Mannikapa 2001	0.08	0.39	75	0.56	1.1	367	7.8%	-0.47 [-0.72, -0.22]	
Redfern 2019	0.7	1	310	2	35	367	8.0%	-0.05 [-0.20, 0.10]	+
Gorlinger 2011	4	2.2	2147	4	1.5	1718	8.1%	0.00 [-0.06, 0.06]	t
Total (95% CI)			3130			3031	100.0%	-0.58 [-0.93, -0.24]	•
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.	38; Chi²	= 308.	38, df =	= 13 (P ·	< 0.00	001); l²	= 96%	-	
Test for overall effect: Z					-4 -2 0 2 4 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]				

E Number of patients transfused with PLT

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Shore-Lesserson 1999	5	53	8	52	3.0%	0.61 [0.21, 1.75]	
Smith 2017	5	46	27	47	4.1%	0.19 [0.08, 0.45]	
Ichikawa 2018	8	68	11	69	4.2%	0.74 [0.32, 1.72]	
Nascimento 2020	14	82	9	71	4.7%	1.35 [0.62, 2.92]	
Weber 2012	10	50	24	50	6.1%	0.42 [0.22, 0.78]	
Monaco 2019	17	77	17	77	6.4%	1.00 [0.55, 1.81]	
Ak 2009	17	114	29	110	7.1%	0.57 [0.33, 0.97]	
Trzebicki 2010	16	23	11	28	7.1%	1.77 [1.04, 3.02]	
Girdauskas 2010	14	27	23	29	8.8%	0.65 [0.43, 0.98]	
Smart 2017	27	34	24	34	10.8%	1.13 [0.85, 1.48]	- -
Gorlinger 2011	280	2147	173	1718	12.1%	1.30 [1.08, 1.55]	
Redfern 2019	173	310	288	367	12.8%	0.71 [0.64, 0.80]	+
Spiess 1995	285	591	289	488	12.8%	0.81 [0.73, 0.91]	-
Total (95% CI)		3622		3140	100.0%	0.82 [0.67, 1.01]	•
Total events	871		933				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.0	09; Chi² = 6	6.33, d	f = 12 (P	< 0.000	001); l² = 8	2%	0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10
Test for overall effect: Z =	= 1.85 (P =	0.06)					Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]



F Number of transfused PLT units

	TEG	ROT	EM	С	ontrol		:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference	
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Fixed, 95% CI	I IV, Fixed, 95% CI	
Wang 2010	27.3	13.9	14	30.1	18.5	14	0.5%	-0.17 [-0.91, 0.58]		
Girdauskas 2010	1	3	27	2	1.5	29	1.0%	-0.42 [-0.95, 0.11]		
Shi 2019	1.94	0.75	40	3.42	1.24	34	1.1%	-1.46 [-1.97, -0.94]		
Smart 2017	2	2.2	34	2	3	34	1.3%	0.00 [-0.48, 0.48]		
Shore-Lesserson 1999	22	75	53	41	122	52	2.0%	-0.19 [-0.57, 0.20]		
Ichikawa 2018	20	29.6	68	20	14.8	69	2.6%	0.00 [-0.33, 0.33]		
Mannikapa 2001	0.17	0.64	75	0.02	0.23	75	2.8%	0.31 [-0.01, 0.63]		
Nascimento 2020	1	2.3	82	1	2.9	71	2.9%	0.00 [-0.32, 0.32]		
Redfern 2019	1.25	1.33	310	1.28	0.97	367	12.8%	-0.03 [-0.18, 0.13]		
Gorlinger 2011	2	0.5	2147	2	0.7	1718	72.9%	0.00 [-0.06, 0.06]		
Total (95% CI)			2850			2463	100.0%	-0.02 [-0.07, 0.03]	•	
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 37	.24, df =	9 (P <	0.000	1); l ² = 7	76%				<u>t</u> <u>t</u> <u>t</u>	_
Test for overall effect: Z	,								-2 -1 0 1 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]	2

G Number of Patients transfused with Cryo

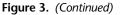
	TEG/RC	DTEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Smith 2017	8	46	9	47	17.9%	0.91 [0.38, 2.15]	
Nascimento 2020	45	82	14	71	20.1%	2.78 [1.67, 4.63]	
Spiess 1995	38	591	44	488	20.5%	0.71 [0.47, 1.08]	
Redfern 2019	28	310	144	367	20.7%	0.23 [0.16, 0.34]	
Smart 2017	25	34	19	34	20.8%	1.32 [0.92, 1.89]	+ - -
Total (95% Cl)		1063		1007	100.0%	0.88 [0.36, 2.16]	
Total events	144		230				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.98; Chi ²	= 77.72	, df = 4 (F	o.00	0001); I ² = 9	5%	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 0.28 (F	P = 0.78)		-		0.05 0.2 1 5 20 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

H Number of transfused Cryo units

	TEG	S/ROT	EM	C	ontrol		:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Wang 2010	13	10.3	14	15.6	9.5	14	22.7%	-0.25 [-1.00, 0.49]	
Smart 2017	2	3	34	1	1.5	34	24.9%	0.42 [-0.06, 0.90]	
Nascimento 2020	7.5	10.5	82	1.2	3.2	71	25.8%	0.78 [0.45, 1.11]	
Redfern 2019	0.16	0.53	310	0.9	1.26	367	26.5%	-0.74 [-0.90, -0.59]	=
Total (95% CI)			440			486	100.0%	0.05 [-0.86, 0.96]	-
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.81; Cł	ni² = 79	9.20, df	= 3 (P •	< 0.00	001); l²	= 96%	-	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 0.11	(P = (0.91)						-4 -2 0 2 4 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

I Number of patients transfused with fibrinogen

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Monaco 2019	34	77	1	77	11.6%	34.00 [4.77, 242.18]	
Vasques 2017	18	40	4	40	18.8%	4.50 [1.67, 12.12]	
Weber 2012	23	50	26	50	22.8%	0.88 [0.59, 1.32]	
Gorlinger 2011	215	2147	64	1718	23.4%	2.69 [2.05, 3.53]	
Girdauskas 2010	21	27	26	29	23.5%	0.87 [0.68, 1.10]	-=+
Total (95% CI)		2341		1914	100.0%	2.36 [0.93, 6.00]	
Total events	311		121				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.95; Chi²	= 94.93	, df = 4 (F	o < 0.00	0001); l ² =	96%	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.81 (F	P = 0.07)				0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]



J Fibrinogen transfused in grams/patient

	TEC	ROT	EM	с	ontrol		5	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% CI
Bakhshandeh 2016	2	0.28	25	0.5	0.13	25	10.5%	6.76 [5.28, 8.25]	
Girdauskas 2010	2	0.7	27	2	0.7	29	17.1%	0.00 [-0.52, 0.52]	+
Shi 2019	2.13	0.83	40	3.24	1.22	34	17.3%	-1.07 [-1.56, -0.58]	+
Monaco 2019	1.9	1.9	77	0.1	0.1	77	18.0%	1.33 [0.98, 1.68]	+
Nascimento 2020	0.8	1.8	82	0.2	0.9	71	18.2%	0.41 [0.09, 0.73]	*
Gorlinger 2011	3	1.5	2147	2	0.7	1718	18.8%	0.83 [0.76, 0.89]	-
Total (95% CI)			2398			1954	100.0%	1.00 [0.27, 1.72]	◆
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.73; CI	ni² = 14	41.49, d	lf = 5 (F	< 0.0	0001);	² = 96%	-	
Test for overall effect:				`		,,			-4 -2 0 2 4 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

K Number of patients transfused with PCC

	TEG/RC	DTEM	Contr	rol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	I M-H, Random, 95% CI
Girdauskas 2010	4	27	26	29	22.8%	0.17 [0.07, 0.41]	
Nascimento 2020	27	82	7	71	24.1%	3.34 [1.55, 7.20]	
Weber 2012	13	50	16	50	25.4%	0.81 [0.44, 1.51]	
Gorlinger 2011	191	2147	76	1718	27.6%	2.01 [1.55, 2.60]	
Total (95% CI)		2306		1868	100.0%	1.02 [0.38, 2.77]	
Total events	235		125				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.92; Chi ²	= 34.92	, df = 3 (F	o < 0.00	001); I ² = 9	1%	
Test for overall effect:							0.05 0.2 1 5 20 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

L Number of transfused PCC units

	TE	G/ROTE	EM	C	ontro	I I	:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% Cl	IV, Random, 95% CI
Girdauskas 2010	0	1,481	27	3,000	740	29	21.4%	-2.56 [-3.27, -1.84]	
Weber 2012	0	444	50	0	888	50	25.3%	0.00 [-0.39, 0.39]	-+-
Nascimento 2020	1.4	2.3	82	0.2	0.7	71	25.9%	0.68 [0.36, 1.01]	
Gorlinger 2011	2	0.7	2147	2	1.1	1718	27.4%	0.00 [-0.06, 0.06]	ŧ
Total (95% CI)			2306			1868	100.0%	-0.37 [-1.08, 0.34]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.48; Cł	ni² = 65.	.33, df =	-	-2 -1 0 1 2				
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.02	(P = 0.	.31)		-2 -1 0 1 2 Favours [TEG/ROETM] Favours [control]				

M The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Monaco 2019	1	77	1	77	0.8%	1.00 [0.06, 15.70]	
Ichikawa 2018	2	68	2	69	1.6%	1.01 [0.15, 7.00]	
Mannikapa 2001	3	75	2	75	1.9%	1.50 [0.26, 8.72]	
Bakhshandeh 2016	2	25	3	25	2.1%	0.67 [0.12, 3.65]	
Smith 2017	2	46	4	47	2.2%	0.51 [0.10, 2.65]	
Ak 2009	6	114	5	110	4.5%	1.16 [0.36, 3.68]	
Weber 2012	5	50	8	50	5.5%	0.63 [0.22, 1.78]	
Girdauskas 2010	5	27	7	29	5.7%	0.77 [0.28, 2.13]	
Nascimento 2020	6	82	8	71	5.9%	0.65 [0.24, 1.78]	
Spiess 1995	9	591	28	488	10.9%	0.27 [0.13, 0.56]	
Redfern 2019	11	310	26	367	12.6%	0.50 [0.25, 1.00]	
Gorlinger 2011	48	2147	72	1718	46.3%	0.53 [0.37, 0.76]	
Total (95% CI)		3612		3126	100.0%	0.55 [0.43, 0.70]	◆
Total events	100		166				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.00; Chi ²	= 7.86,	df = 11 (F	P = 0.73	s); ² = 0%		0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10
Test for overall effect:	Z = 4.79 (F	P < 0.00	001)				Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

Figure 3. (Continued)

N Mortality

	TEG/RC	DTEM	Conti	rol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Shi 2019	1	40	1	34	0.8%	0.85 [0.06, 13.08]	
Smart 2017	1	34	1	34	0.8%	1.00 [0.07, 15.34]	
Ichikawa 2018	2	68	1	69	1.0%	2.03 [0.19, 21.86]	
Ak 2009	3	224	1	114	1.2%	1.53 [0.16, 14.51]	
Smith 2017	1	46	3	47	1.2%	0.34 [0.04, 3.16]	
Monaco 2019	6	77	3	77	3.2%	2.00 [0.52, 7.71]	
Girdauskas 2010	4	27	5	29	4.0%	0.86 [0.26, 2.87]	
Redfern 2019	7	310	17	367	7.8%	0.49 [0.20, 1.16]	
Gorlinger 2011	112	2147	90	1718	80.1%	1.00 [0.76, 1.30]	+
Total (95% CI)		2973		2489	100.0%	0.96 [0.75, 1.22]	
Total events	137		122				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.00; Chi ²	= 4.97,	df = 8 (P	= 0.76)	; I² = 0%		
Test for overall effect:				,			0.05 0.2 1 5 20 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

PRBC, packed red blood cells; FFP, fresh frozen plasma; PLT, platelet; PCC, Prothrombin complex concentrate; Cryo, Cryoprecipitate. **Figure 3.** (*Continued*)

transfusions on the number of patients transfused with PRBCs (RR, 0.83; 95% CI, 0.72–0.96; AE, 115 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 189 fewer to 27 fewer per 1,000 patients), the number of patients transfused FFPs (RR, 0.39; 95% CI, 0.17–0.93; AE, 127 patients fewer; 95% CI, from 173 fewer to 15 fewer).

Thromboelastography/ROTEM had no benefit on the number of patients transfused with PLTs; on volume/units of transfused PRBCs, FFPs, and PLTs; the need for additional hemostatic interventions; and mortality.

Grading the Evidence

The evidence was assessed applying the GRADE framework (Table 1C; Supplemental Digital Content, Appendix 2, http://links. lww.com/TA/B805). First, the level of evidence was downgraded for all outcomes because of the inclusion of observational studies. We also reduced the level of evidence because of the inconsistent effect of TEG/ROTEM on the transfusion of blood products. Since wide CIs were reported for blood product transfusion, reoperation, and mortality rate, and there was a small number of subjects in the included studies, the level of evidence was further downgraded for imprecision. Overall, the level of evidence was assessed to be very low.

Recommendations for the Use TEG in Critically III Patients (PICO 3)

Based on the analysis of included studies, the effect of TEG/ROTEM on the selected outcomes, and the very low level of evidence, we conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided strategy versus non-TEG/ROTEM strategy in adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy to reduce blood product transfusions (Table 2). The results of the meta-analyses demonstrated that utilization of TEG/ROTEM reduced number of patients exposed to the transfusions of PRBC and FFP, leading to a decreased number of patients who could potentially develop blood transfusions–related complications. Although the effect of TEG/ROTEM was inconsistent on other selected outcomes (the need for additional hemostatic interventions and mortality), the benefit from reduced exposure to blood products

transfusions, combined with no harm to the patient from using the technology, led us to make this conditional recommendation.

USING THESE GUIDELINES IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

This Practice Management Guidelines addresses the role of TEG/ROTEM in guiding transfusions in patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy in adult trauma patients, surgical patients, and critically ill patients. After performing a formal, exhaustive literature search and assessing the existing evidence with the GRADE methodology, we conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM-guided blood product transfusions (Table 2). The TEG/ROTEM-guided transfusions led to fewer numbers of patients exposed to blood product transfusions in all studied populations and to fewer blood product transfusions per patient in trauma and surgical patients. Recognizing differences in resources between institutions in treating such patients, we recommend incorporating TEG/ROTEM into local institutional protocols. These recommendations should complement, not replace, clinical judgment.

This systematic review has few limitations that among others included a risk for incomplete retrieval of identified research, selection bias for the procedure, and publication bias due to the mainly positive published results. In studies where number of transfused blood products was reported, it was unclear what denominator was used: either total number of patients in the corresponding study arm or only those who received transfusions. All included studies reported utilization of TEG/ROTEM per the local institutional protocols. Unfortunately, the heterogeneity of the studied patient populations and local protocols precluded us on making any statements in favor of specific protocols. However, these typically included patients with clinically significant active bleeding and suspected or confirmed coagulopathy, and revolve around repeating the test after guided component transfusion, until TEG/ROTEM normalization and clinical evidence of bleeding cessation. Given the heterogeneity of the population in the included studies, adjustments based on age, mechanism of injury/associated diagnoses, comorbidities, injury severity, and physiologic derangement were

A Number of patients transfused with PRBC

	TEG/RC	DTEM	Conti	rol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Snegovskikh 2018	17	28	55	58	15.5%	0.64 [0.47, 0.87]	
Avidan 2004 (POC)	34	51	35	51	18.4%	0.97 [0.74, 1.27]	
Avidan 2004	34	51	92	108	24.9%	0.78 [0.63, 0.96]	
Anderson 2006	270	502	294	488	41.2%	0.89 [0.80, 1.00]	
Total (95% Cl)		632		705	100.0%	0.83 [0.72, 0.96]	•
Total events	355		476				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.01; Chi ²	= 5.66,	df = 3 (P	= 0.13)	; l² = 47%		
Test for overall effect:	Z = 2.52 (F	P = 0.01)				0.5 0.7 1 1.5 2 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

B Number of transfused PRBC units/volume

	TEG	ROTI	EM	С	ontrol		5	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Deaton 2017	1.14	1.27	36	0.28	0.55	60	19.1%	0.96 [0.52, 1.40]	
Avidan 2004 (POC)	500	502	51	495	453	51	19.5%	0.01 [-0.38, 0.40]	
Avidan 2004	500	502	51	512	500	108	19.9%	-0.02 [-0.36, 0.31]	
Saeveraas 2019	19	12	104	13	5	130	20.4%	0.68 [0.41, 0.94]	
Anderson 2006	1	1.5	502	2	2.2	488	21.0%	-0.53 [-0.66, -0.41]	
Total (95% Cl)			744			837	100.0%	0.21 [-0.40, 0.81]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = Test for overall effect:				= 4 (P	< 0.00	001); l²	= 96%	-	-1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

C Number of patients transfused with FFP

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	rol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	I M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Avidan 2004 (POC)	2	51	0	51	6.5%	5.00 [0.25, 101.63]	
Avidan 2004	2	51	16	108	17.2%	0.26 [0.06, 1.11]	
Snegovskikh 2018	3	28	42	58	21.6%	0.15 [0.05, 0.44]	_
Rout 2020	4	30	14	30	22.9%	0.29 [0.11, 0.77]	
Anderson 2006	60	502	81	488	31.8%	0.72 [0.53, 0.98]	-
Total (95% CI)		662		735	100.0%	0.39 [0.17, 0.93]	-
Total events	71		153				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.57; Chi ²	= 13.48	, df = 4 (F	P = 0.00	09); l ² = 70	9%	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 2.14 (F	P = 0.03)				0.01 0.1 1 10 100 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

D Number of transfused FFP units/volume

	TEG	ROT	EM	c	ontrol		:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% Cl	IV, Random, 95% CI
Kumar 2019	440	978	49	880	1,215	47	49.4%	-0.40 [-0.80, 0.01]	
McNamara 2019	22	15	203	11	8	52	50.6%	0.79 [0.48, 1.10]	
Total (95% CI)			252			99	100.0%	0.20 [-0.96, 1.37]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = Test for overall effect:				= 1 (P •	< 0.000	01); l² =	95%	-	-2 -1 0 1 2 Favours ITEG/ROTEM) Favours [control]

Figure 4. PICO 3. (*A*), Number of patients transfused with PRBC. (*B*), Number of transfused PRBC units per volume. (*C*), Number of patients transfused with FFP. (*D*), Number of transfused FFP units per volume. (*E*), Number of patients transfused with PLT. (*F*), Number of transfused PLT units. (*G*), The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention. (*H*), Mortality.

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% CI
Snegovskikh 2018	0	28	26	58	8.4%	0.04 [0.00, 0.61]	
Avidan 2004 (POC)	2	51	1	51	10.2%	2.00 [0.19, 21.37]	
Avidan 2004	2	51	14	108	16.1%	0.30 [0.07, 1.28]	
Rout 2020	3	30	21	30	18.8%	0.14 [0.05, 0.43]	
Aoki 2012	11	50	24	50	22.5%	0.46 [0.25, 0.83]	
Anderson 2006	81	502	56	488	23.9%	1.41 [1.02, 1.93]	
Total (95% CI)		712		785	100.0%	0.42 [0.16, 1.14]	-
Total events	99		142				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	1.05; Chi ²	= 32.61	, df = 5 (F	o.00	0001); I ² = 3	85%	0.002 0.1 1 10 500
Test for overall effect:	Z = 1.70 (F	9 = 0.09)				0.002 0.1 1 10 500 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

E Number of patients transfused with PLT

F Number of transfused PLT units

	TEG	/ROT	EM	Co	ontro	l	:	Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% Cl
Kumar 2019	1	0.7	49	2	2.2	47	49.5%	-0.61 [-1.02, -0.20]	
Saeveraas 2019	18	15	104	7	7	130	50.5%	0.97 [0.70, 1.25]	
Total (95% CI)			153			177	100.0%	0.19 [-1.37, 1.74]	
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	1.23; Ch	i² = 39	9.84, df	= 1 (P	< 0.0	0001);	l² = 97%	-	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 0.24	(P = (0.81)						Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

G The need for additional angioembolic, endoscopic, or surgical intervention

	TEG/RC	TEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Avidan 2004 (POC)	1	51	1	51	1.8%	1.00 [0.06, 15.56]	
Avidan 2004	1	51	3	108	2.7%	0.71 [0.08, 6.62]	
McNamara 2019	16	203	7	52	19.8%	0.59 [0.25, 1.35]	
Anderson 2006	19	502	16	502	32.2%	1.19 [0.62, 2.28]	
Deaton 2017	13	36	20	60	43.4%	1.08 [0.62, 1.90]	_
Total (95% CI)		843		773	100.0%	0.98 [0.67, 1.41]	-
Total events	50		47				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.00; Chi ²	= 2.00,	df = 4 (P	= 0.74)	; l² = 0%		
Test for overall effect:	Z = 0.13 (F	P = 0.89)	,			0.1 0.2 0.5 1 2 5 10 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

H Mortality

	TEG/RC	DTEM	Contr	ol		Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	Weight	M-H, Random, 95% Cl	M-H, Random, 95% Cl
Rout 2020	6	30	4	30	11.0%	1.50 [0.47, 4.78]	
Deaton 2017	12	36	7	60	17.3%	2.86 [1.24, 6.59]	
Saeveraas 2019	36	104	48	130	35.4%	0.94 [0.66, 1.33]	
Kumar 2019	27	49	31	47	36.3%	0.84 [0.60, 1.16]	
Total (95% CI)		219		267	100.0%	1.15 [0.74, 1.79]	
Total events	81		90				
Heterogeneity: Tau ² =	0.11; Chi ²	= 8.14,	df = 3 (P	= 0.04)	; I ² = 63%	•	
Test for overall effect:	Z = 0.61 (F	P = 0.54)				0.2 0.5 1 2 5 Favours [TEG/ROTEM] Favours [control]

PRBC, packed red blood cells; FFP, fresh frozen plasma; PLT, platelet. **Figure 4.** *Continued*

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unable to be performed. Lack of cost data did not allow us to conduct a cost analysis into our recommendations.

CONCLUSIONS

We conditionally recommend using TEG/ROTEM to guide blood transfusions instead of traditional coagulation parameters in each of the following three groups: adult trauma patients, adult surgical patients, and adult critically ill patients with ongoing hemorrhage and concern for coagulopathy.

AUTHORSHIP

N.B. contributed in the study design, literature search, data collection, data analysis, data interpretation, and drafting of the article. J.J.C., G.G., J.J.F., J.S.S., C.J.V., B.K.Y., L.A.K., N.M.G., H.A.A., P.A.P., E.J.M., and Z.W.B. contributed in the study design, data collection, data interpretation, and critical revisions. G.K. contributed in the study idea, study design, literature search, data collection, data analysis, data interpretation, and critical revisions.

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DISCLOSURE

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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