



Tranexamic acid for the treatment of significant traumatic brain injury: an international randomised, double blind placebo controlled trial

## RATIONALE AND OVERVIEW

# Traumatic brain injury

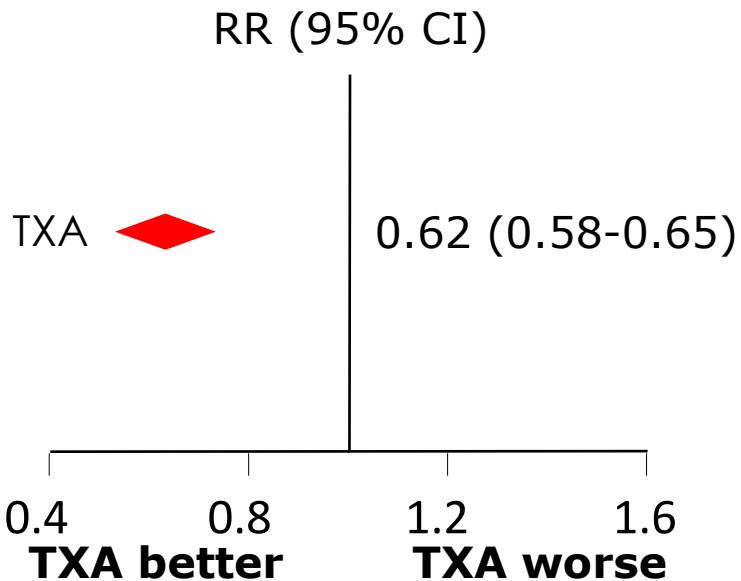
- 10 million killed or hospitalised every year
- 90% in low and middle income countries
- Mostly young adults and long lasting disability
- The incidence of TBI is predicted to rise



# Tranexamic acid and bleeding

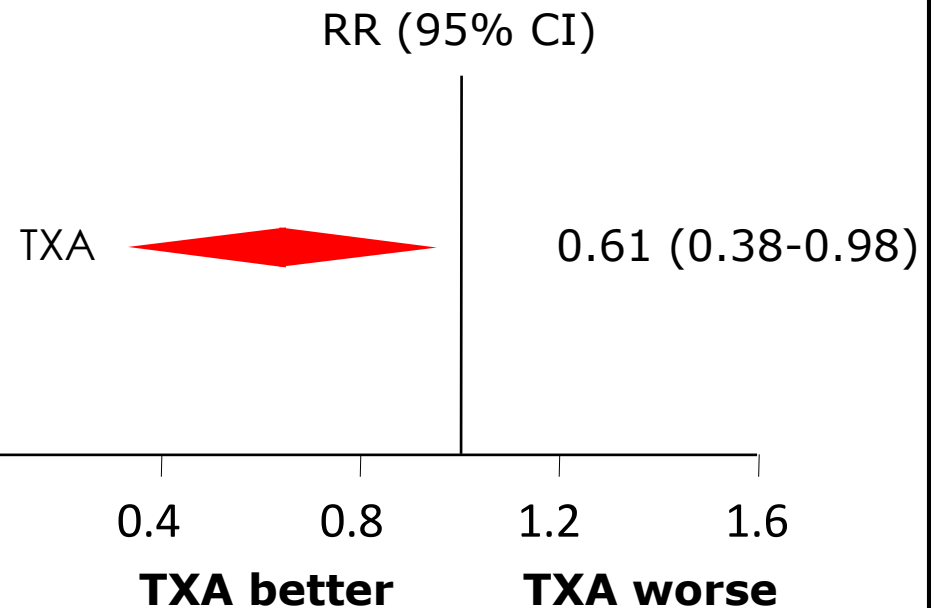
TXA reduces bleeding in surgery

## Transfusion



95 trials

## Mortality



72 trials

# CRASH-2 trial results

**TXA-allocated**

**(n=10,060)**

1,463 (14.5%)

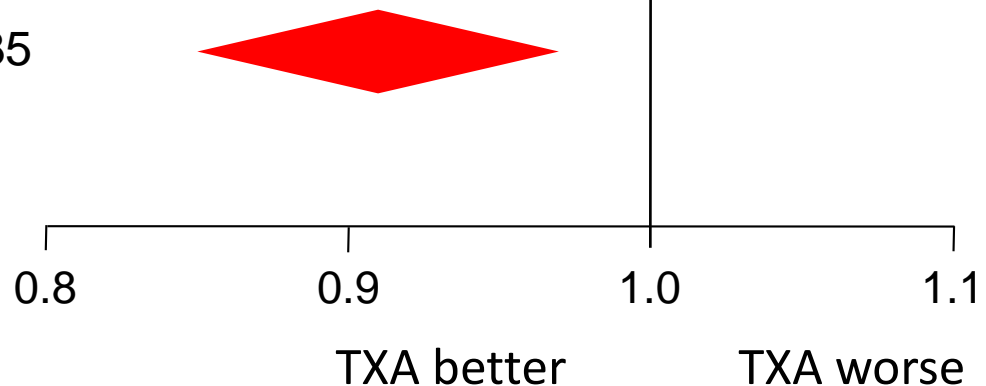
**Placebo-allocated**

**(n=10,067)**

1,613 (16.0%)

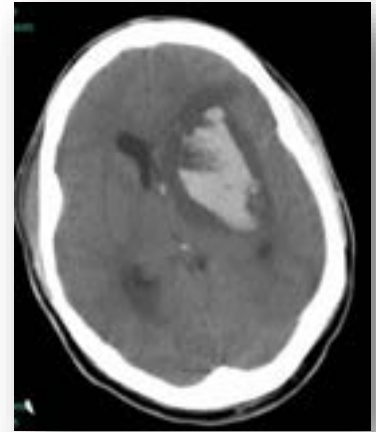
Risk ratio (95% CI)

0.91 (0.85–0.97) 2P=0.0035



# Traumatic Intracranial Bleeding

- Bleeding is a common complication of traumatic brain injury
- It is associated with poor outcome
- It can develop or worsen after hospital admission
- Early intervention may prevent enlargement



•Perel P, Roberts I, Bouamra O, Woodford M, Mooney J, Lecky F. Intracranial bleeding in patients with traumatic brain injury: A prognostic study. *BMC Emergency Medicine* 2009, 9:15

•Oertel M, Kelly DF, McArthur D, Boscardin WJ, Glenn TC, Lee JH, et al. Progressive hemorrhage after head trauma: predictors and consequences of the evolving injury. *J Neurosurg.* 2002;96(1):109-16.

•Narayan RK, Maas AI, Servadei F, Skolnick BE, Tillinger MN, Marshall LF. Progression of traumatic intracerebral hemorrhage: a prospective observational study. *J Neurotrauma.* 2008; 25(6):629-39.

# Why TXA and intracranial bleeding?

- Coagulopathy affects about one third of patients with TBI
- Increased fibrinolysis is a common feature of coagulopathy
- Two randomised controlled trials of TXA in TBI

# CRASH-2 Intracranial Bleeding Study (IBS)

	TXA n (%)	Placebo n (%)	OR (95% CI) n=249
Significant haemorrhage growth (n 123/126)	44 (36)	56 (44)	0.70 (0.42–1.16)
New focal ischaemic regions (n 123/126)	6 (5)	12 (9)	0.49 (0.18–1.35)
Death (n 133/137)	14 (10.5)	24 (17.5)	0.55 (0.27–1.22)

•CRASH-2 collaborators (Intracranial Bleeding Study). Effect of tranexamic acid in traumatic brain injury: a nested randomised, placebo controlled trial (CRASH-2 Intracranial Bleeding Study). *BMJ* 2011; 343:d3795.

# Thai Study of TXA in TBI

*240 patients with isolated TBI*

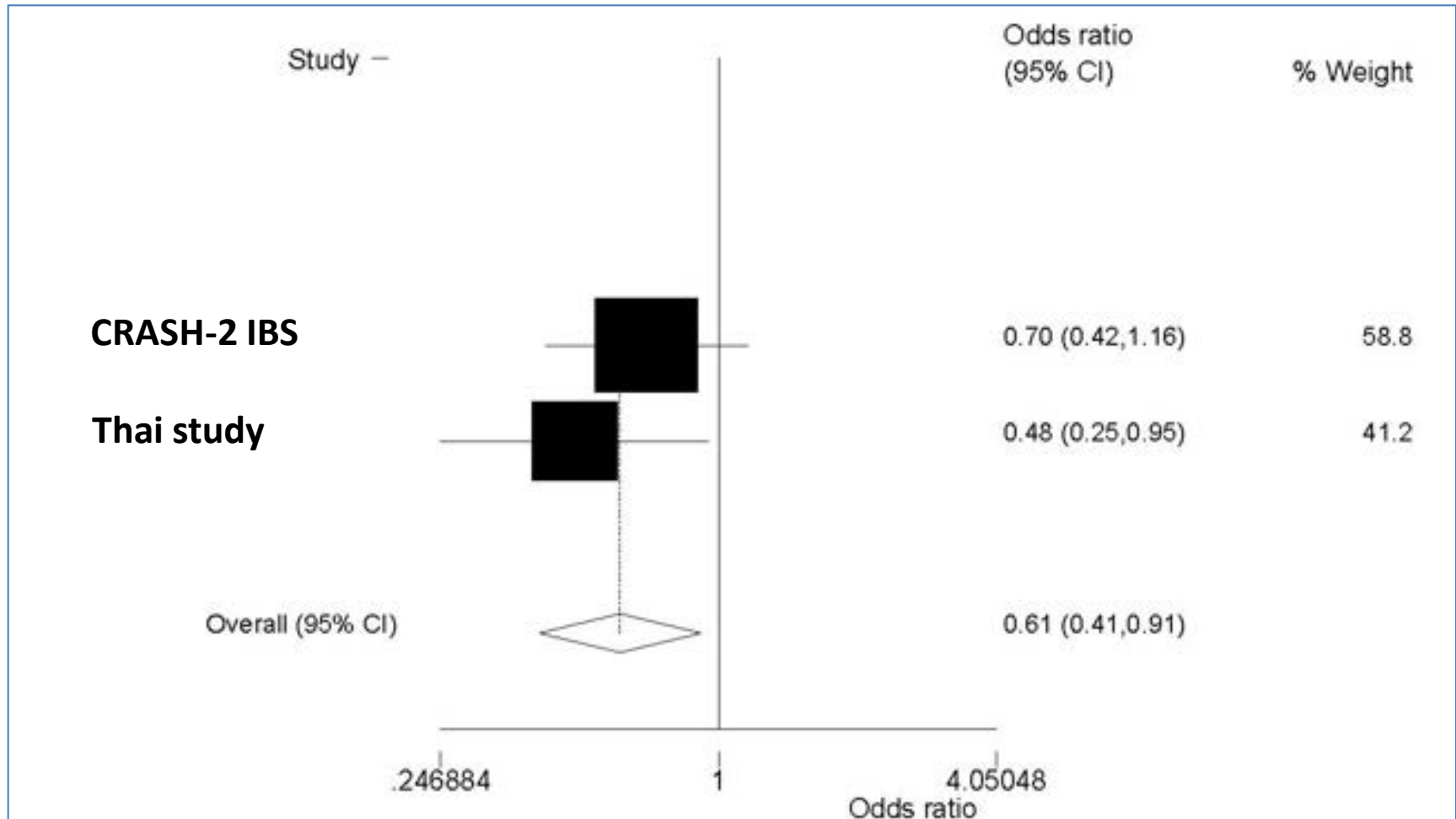
	RR (95% CI)
Haemorrhage growth	0.56 (0.32–0.96)
Mortality	0.67 (0.34–1.32)

- Yutthakasemsunt S, et al. Tranexamic Acid for preventing progressive intracranial hemorrhage in adults with traumatic brain injury; a preliminary report presented at the National Neurotrauma Symposium 2010.
- Available from <http://www.neurotrauma.org/2010/abstracts.htm>



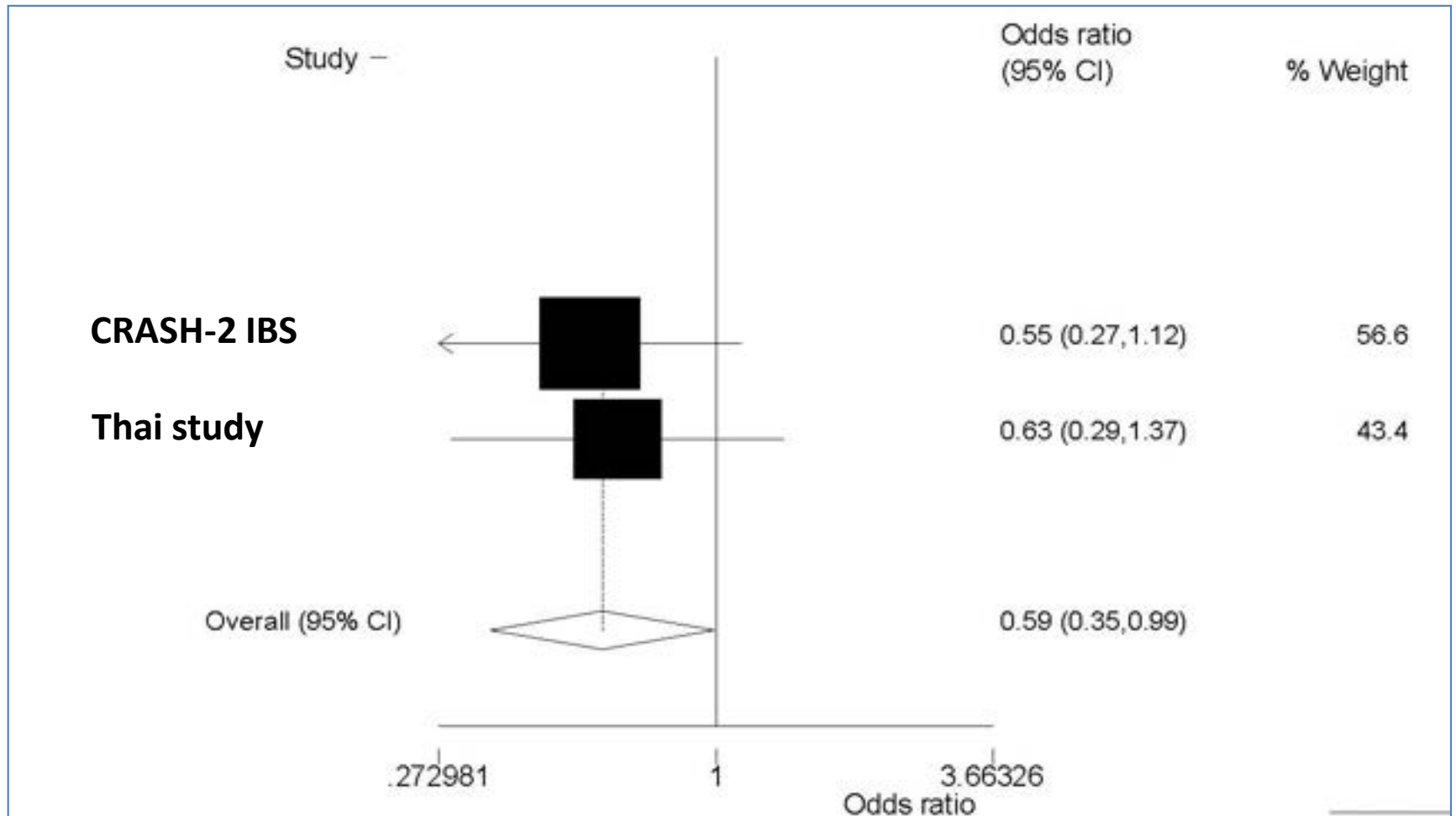
# Meta-analysis

## *Significant Haemorrhage growth*



# Meta-analysis

## *Mortality*



# CRASH-3 trial

*The CRASH-3 trial will provide reliable evidence about the effect of tranexamic acid on mortality and disability in patients with TBI.*

*The effect of TXA on the risk of vascular occlusive events and seizures will also be assessed.*



# Sample size

13,000 TBI patients

- 90% power (two sided  $\alpha=1\%$ )
- 15% relative reduction in all-cause mortality



# Before the trial starts

- A completed Hospital & Principal Investigator CV Form
- GCP training certificate(s)
- Approval of your hospital (if required)
- Ethics Approval (local and/or national)
- Ministry of Public Health approval (if applicable)
- A signed Principal Investigator Agreement
- A copy of the approved Patient Information Sheet & Consent form (if different from the protocol sent to you)

# Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

**Good Clinical Practice (GCP):** is an international ethical and scientific quality standard for designing, conducting, recording and reporting trials that involve the participation of human subjects.

- Free online training via our website
- All staff should complete prior to the study starting at your hospital



# Create a trial team

Provide information and training to all team members

Nominate someone to be responsible in your absence

Roles may include:

- Principal Investigator
- Sub-investigator
- Data collection
- Study coordinator

Identify people to be responsible for specific trial processes – they must be interested in the trial



Every specialty should be represented:

- neurosurgeons
- traumatologists
- nurses
- intensivists
- general surgeons
- clerical staff
- pharmacy
- managers
- administrators

# Overview

## ELIGIBILITY

- adult
- with traumatic brain injury
- within 8 hours of injury (for the remainder of the trial we will limit recruitment to patients who are within 3 hours of injury)
- any intracranial bleeding on CT scan OR GCS  $\leq 12$
- no significant extracranial haemorrhage (requiring immediate transfusion)
- where the responsible clinician is substantially uncertain as to the appropriateness of antifibrinolytic agents in a patient

Appropriate **CONSENT PROCESS** for patient  
eg prior representative agreement or waiver

**RANDOMISE** (tranexamic acid or placebo)  
**Entry form** completed

Give **loading dose** over 10 minutes

Give **maintenance dose** over 8 hours

Complete **outcome form** at prior discharge, death, or day 28

All clinically indicated treatment is given in addition to trial enrolment

Adverse events are reported up to day 28

If prior consent waiver used, consent from patient or relative required after emergency is over



# Consent – at trial entry

- **If representative is available:** Bear in mind the distressing nature of the situation and lack of time. Provide them with brief information and if agreement, continue to randomise. Full consent to be obtained after emergency situation is over.
- **If no representative:** Two clinicians (one independent of the trial) will consider the eligibility criteria and any known views of the patient about trial participation. Together they will decide whether or not to enrol the patient into the trial (i.e. a waiver )

# Consent – after emergency is over

Full informed written consent for continuation to be obtained from either:

- patient (if capacity returns)
- relative (if they become known and patient unable)
- other representative (if patient unable and if no relative)



# Entry Form



## ENTRY FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE 1-16 BEFORE RANDOMISING THE PATIENT

### ABOUT YOUR HOSPITAL *(please ensure all information below is contained in the medical records)*

1. Country	
2. Hospital code (in your Study File)	

### ABOUT THE PATIENT

3. Patient's initials (first name/last name)		4. Patient hospital ID	
5. Age (years – approximate if unknown)		6. Sex (circle)	<input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE

### ABOUT THE INJURY AND PATIENT'S CONDITION

7. Time since injury (insert hours)		Best estimate from history	
8. Systolic Blood Pressure		mmHg (most recent measurement prior to randomisation)	
9. Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) <i>(circle one response for each category)</i>	9A-EYE OPENING 4. SPONTANEOUS 3. TO SOUND 2. TO PAIN 1. NONE	9B-MOTOR RESPONSE 6. OBEYS COMMANDS 5. LOCATING 4. NORMALE FLEXION 3. ABNORMAL FLEXION 2. EXTENDING 1. NONE	9C-VERBAL RESPONSE 5. ORIENTATED 4. CONFUSED SPEECH 3. WORDS 2. SOUNDS 1. NONE
First measurement in hospital of GCS <i>(if unknown give value at randomisation)</i>		IF GCS MORE THAN 12 AND NO CT SCAN AVAILABLE – <b>DO NOT RANDOMISE</b>  IF GCS MORE THAN 12, CT SCAN IS AVAILABLE AND INTRACRANIAL BLEEDING=YES – <b>RANDOMISE</b>	
10. This GCS is <i>(circle one)</i>	BEFORE	AFTER	Intubation/sedation
11. Pupil reaction	BOTH REACT	ONE REACTS	NONE REACT
			UNABLE TO ASSESS
12. Any significant extracranial bleeding?	YES	NO	Patients with extracranial trauma who are likely to need an early blood transfusion in the view of the attending doctor after taking into account mechanism of injury, findings from secondary survey, physiology and response to fluid infusion – <b>DO NOT RANDOMISE</b>
13. Any intracranial bleeding on CT scan (before randomisation)? <i>(circle one)</i>	YES	NO	NO CT SCAN AVAILABLE IF CT SCAN AVAILABLE AND INTRACRANIAL BLEEDING=NO – <b>DO NOT RANDOMISE</b>
14. Location of intracranial haemorrhage on CT Scan <i>(circle one response for each line)</i>			
a) Epidural	YES	NO	
b) Subdural	YES	NO	
c) Subarachnoid	YES	NO	
d) Parenchymal	YES	NO	
e) Intraventricular	YES	NO	

*One page only*

- Complete questions 1–14 to assess eligibility
- If eligible, follow appropriate consent process – complete 15–16
- **RANDOMISE:** Use next lowest available pack number – STRICT NUMERICAL ORDER

# Randomisation

- Use next lowest available pack number
- Record on Randomisation log
- Record pack used on Drug Accountability Log



# Entry form and Randomisation

## RANDOMISATION INFORMATION

*Eligible if adult, with TBI, no significant extracranial bleeding, within 8h of injury (GCS=12 or less, or any intracranial haemorrhage on CT scan)*

<b>15. Eligible? (circle)</b>	<b>YES</b>	<i>Get the lowest available number treatment pack and follow instructions</i>				<b>NO</b>	<i>Do not randomise, record on screening log</i>	
<b>16. Consent process for entry used? (circle)</b>	<b>WAIVER</b>			<b>OTHER REPRESENTATIVE</b>			<b>RELATIVE</b>	
<b>17. Insert treatment pack number here</b>				<b>BOX</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
							<b>PACK</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>18. Date of randomisation</b>	<i>day</i>	<i>month</i>	<i>year</i>	<b>19. Time of randomisation</b> <i>(24-hour clock)</i>			<i>hours</i>	<i>minutes</i>
<b>20. Name of person randomising</b>				<b>21. Signature</b>				

- Use next lowest available pack number
- Record on Randomisation log
- Record pack used on Drug Accountability Log

# Dose

Treatment	Dose TXA or placebo
Loading	1 gram / 10 minutes (IV infusion)
Maintenance	1 gram / 8 hours (IV infusion)



# How to give the trial treatment

**ALL AMPOULES ARE IDENTICAL AND CONTAIN 500mg  
OF EITHER TRANEXAMIC ACID OR PLACEBO**

## **LOADING DOSE**

*2 ampoules over 10 minutes*

**Give immediately after  
randomisation**

PRESCRIBE: “CRASH-3 Trial (1 gram  
of tranexamic acid/placebo) over  
10 minutes”

Draw up 10mL (2 ampoules of  
tranexamic acid / placebo) and add  
to 100mL bag of Sodium Chloride  
0.9% (provided) and infuse over 10  
minutes.

## **MAINTENANCE DOSE**

*2 ampoules over 8 hours*

**Start immediately after  
completion of loading dose**

PRESCRIBE: “CRASH-3 Trial (1 gram  
of tranexamic acid / placebo).  
Infuse at 60 mL/hour”

Draw up 10mL (2 ampoules of  
tranexamic acid / placebo) and add  
to 500mL bag of any isotonic  
intravenous solution and infuse  
over about 8 hours.

# Outcomes

## Primary outcome


- Death in hospital within four weeks of injury among patients randomised within 3 hours of injury
- Cause-specific mortality will also be recorded

## Secondary outcomes

- Vascular occlusive events
- Disability
- Seizures
- Neurosurgical intervention
- Days in intensive care
- Other adverse events will be described



# Outcome form



CRASH

CLINICAL RESEARCH IN SEVERE TRAUMA AND HEAD INJURY

CRASH - CLINICAL RESEARCH IN SEVERE TRAUMA AND HEAD INJURY

# OUTCOME FORM

COMPLETE AT DISCHARGE FROM THE RANDOMISING HOSPITAL,  
DEATH IN HOSPITAL OR 28 DAYS AFTER INJURY, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST

Attach here a sticker from the lid of the treatment pack or write box/pack number below:

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**1. HOSPITAL** (Hospital code)

a) BOX			
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**2. PATIENT**

b) PACK			
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**3. OUTCOME**

**3.1 DEATH IN HOSPITAL**

<b>a) Date of death</b>	<b>b) Time of death</b>										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">DAY (dd)</td> <td style="width: 25%;">MONTH (mm)</td> <td style="width: 25%;">YEAR (yyyy)</td> <td style="width: 25%;">HOUR (hh)</td> <td style="width: 25%;">MIN (mm)</td> </tr> </table>	DAY (dd)	MONTH (mm)	YEAR (yyyy)	HOUR (hh)	MIN (mm)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> </table>					
DAY (dd)	MONTH (mm)	YEAR (yyyy)	HOUR (hh)	MIN (mm)							

**c) Primary Cause of death** (tick one option)

<input type="checkbox"/> Head injury <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding <input type="checkbox"/> Pulmonary embolism <input type="checkbox"/> Stroke <input type="checkbox"/> Myocardial infarction <input type="checkbox"/> Multi organ failure <input type="checkbox"/> Other/describe here (only one)
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**3.2 PATIENT ALIVE**

<b>a) Still in this hospital now (28 days after randomisation) – Date</b>		
DAY (dd)	MONTH (mm)	YEAR (yyyy)
<b>b) Discharged to another hospital – Date of discharge</b>		
DAY (dd)	MONTH (mm)	YEAR (yyyy)
<b>c) Discharged home – Date of discharge</b>		
DAY (dd)	MONTH (mm)	YEAR (yyyy)

**3.3 IF ALIVE – DISABILITY RATING SCALE** (tick one response for each box – see overlap for guidance)

<b>a) EYE OPENING</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Spontaneous <input type="checkbox"/> To Speech <input type="checkbox"/> To Pain <input type="checkbox"/> None	<b>b) COMMUNICATION ABILITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Oriented <input type="checkbox"/> Confused <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Incomprehensible <input type="checkbox"/> None	<b>c) MOTOR RESPONSE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Obeying <input type="checkbox"/> Localizing <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawing <input type="checkbox"/> Flexing <input type="checkbox"/> Extending <input type="checkbox"/> None	<b>d) FEEDING</b> <i>(cognitive ability only)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal <input type="checkbox"/> None
<b>e) TOILETING</b> <i>(cognitive ability only)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal <input type="checkbox"/> None		<b>f) GROOMING</b> <i>(cognitive ability only)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal <input type="checkbox"/> None	
<b>g) LEVEL OF FUNCTIONING</b> <i>(physical, mental, emotional or social function)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Completely independent <input type="checkbox"/> Independent in special environment <input type="checkbox"/> Mildly dependent – limited assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Moderately dependent – moderate assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Markedly dependent – assist all major activities, all times <input type="checkbox"/> Totally dependent – 24-hour nursing care		<b>h) 'EMPLOYABILITY'</b> <i>(as a full time worker, homemaker, or student)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Not restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Selected jobs, competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sheltered workshop, non-competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Not employable	

**3.4 IF ALIVE:** Assessed by doctor/nurse/relative based on their knowledge of the patient, or patient if able (tick one response for each box)

**SEE GUIDANCE OVERLEAF**

<b>a) WALKING</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problems <input type="checkbox"/> Some problems <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to bed	<b>b) WASHING / DRESSING</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problems <input type="checkbox"/> Some problems <input type="checkbox"/> Unable	<b>c) PAIN / DISCOMFORT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme	<b>d) ANXIETY / DEPRESSION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme	<b>e) AGITATION / AGGRESSION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme	<b>f) FATIGUE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme
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**4. MANAGEMENT**

a) DAYS IN INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (if no ICU or not admitted to ICU, write '0' here)	
<b>b) TYPE OF NEUROSURGICAL OPERATION</b>	
i) Haematoma evacuation	YES NO
ii) Other	YES NO
<b>c) BLOOD LOSS DURING NEUROSURGICAL OPERATION</b>	
Estimated Volume (ml)	

**6. COMPLICATIONS**  
(circle one option on every line)

Pulmonary embolism	YES NO
Deep vein thrombosis	YES NO
Stroke	YES NO
Myocardial infarction	YES NO
Renal failure	YES NO
Sepsis	YES NO
Seizure	YES NO
Gastro intestinal bleeding	YES NO

**5. TRIAL TREATMENT**

a) Loading dose given	YES NO
b) Maintenance dose given	YES NO

**7. OTHER COMPLICATIONS**

	YES NO
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IF YES, REPORT AS PER PROTOCOL USING ADVERSE EVENT FORM

**8. PERSON COMPLETING FORM**

a) Name	b) Position
c) Signature	d) Date

THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL DATA SUBMITTED

Protocol Code: ISRCTN15088122

Outcome form version 1.0 dated 1 October 2011

- No extra tests required – a short single page Outcome form completed 4 weeks (28 days) after randomisation, at discharge, or at death (whichever occurs first)
- Outcome to be collected even if the trial treatment is interrupted or is not actually given
- Form to be sent to the TCC as soon as possible

# Adverse Event

**ADVERSE EVENT REPORT FORM**

TRIAL T002: Tranexamic acid for the treatment of significant traumatic brain injury: an international randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

Please report on this form any adverse event occurring up to 28 days after randomisation.  
 • Please refer to the Protocol / Study file for events which need to be reported while the patient is in the hospital.  
 • After discharge and up to 28 days after randomisation ALL untoward events must be reported on this form.

1. REPORT TYPE (initial / follow-up) 2. COUSIN

3. DO YOU KNOW DATE OF BIRTH? (a) YES (b) NO - approximate age

4. SEX (MALE / FEMALE)

5. ADVERSE EVENT IN MEDICAL TERMS (please use if possible)

6. Is the event due to progression of underlying illness? (a) NO (b) YES

7. Onset or first signs/symptoms of AE

8. SERIOUSNESS CRITERIA (tick all appropriate to event)

9. ASSESSMENT OF CAUSALITY (NOT SUSPECTED OR SUSPECTED)

10. OUTCOME OF THE EVENT / AE / SAE

11. INFORMATION SOURCE FOR NON-SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENT

Investigator name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date reported: \_\_\_\_\_

- Death, life-threatening complications and prolonged hospital stay are pre-specified outcomes.
- Adverse events will be limited to serious events that are NOT already listed as primary or secondary outcomes, yet, which might reasonably occur as a consequence of the study drug.
- Events that are part of the natural history of the primary event, or expected complications of critical medical events, should not be reported as serious adverse events e.g. low blood pressure, increased intracranial pressure and reduced urine output associated with TBI.

**After discharge and up to Day 28  
all untoward medical occurrences should be reported**

# Sending your data

**Internet:** Primary data collection is to be done via internet

A username and password to use this site will be sent to you by email before you start the trial.

**Email:** as scanned documents



# Trial Materials

## BEFORE YOU START THE TRIAL YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- a study file compiled specifically for your hospital, containing contact details, further information, guidance, spare forms and filing space for completed data forms
- training CD with PowerPoint presentations
- training DVD of the trial procedures and a protocol presentation
- randomisation posters with step by step guidance
- brief information leaflets and wall posters for the families

## PROTOCOLS

- protocol summaries
- pocket cards

## TREATMENT PACKS

- Initially one box of 8 patient packs
- Stock level is monitored by patient entries received at the TCC
- We will send new boxes when you reach your minimum stock level, which is dependent on your randomisation rate
- With each box you will receive a document pack containing your hospital specific patient information sheets, consent forms, alert cards and brief information leaflets

## TRAINING AND PRESENTATIONS

Please contact the TCC if

- you need more training materials for staff sessions
- you are presenting the trial at meetings or conferences

# Trial Materials





LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



*If a simple and widely practicable treatment was shown to improve outcomes in patients with TBI, it could save many thousands of lives*

**Join us now at [crash3.Lshtm.ac.uk](http://crash3.Lshtm.ac.uk)**

### **Trial Coordinating Centre**

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