## 1 Supplementals

- **Table S1:** Univariate analysis of predictive factors of early and late transfusions after CAR T-cell
- 3 therapy. Statistically significant factors (P < 0.05) are represented by a cross (X).

		in the early 1 month)	Transfusion in the late phase (≥ 1 month)		
	RBC	Platelets	RBC	Platelets	
Age > 60 years at infusion	Х				
ECOG PS ≥ 2 at infusion	Х	Х	X	Х	
aaIPI ≥ 2 at diagnostic	Х	Х		Х	
Refractory to first-line treatment	Х				
Prior ASCT	х				
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell infusion	x	x		x	
Chemotherapy as bridging therapy	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Bulk disease (> 5 cm) at infusion	х				
CAR-HEMATOTOX score ≥ 2 at infusion	Х	Х	Х	Х	
≥ 1 transfusion (RBC or platelets) within 6 months before CAR T-cell therapy	x	x	x	x	
Axi-cel (vs tisa-cel)	х	Х	Х	Х	
CRS grade ≥ 3	X	X			
ICANS grade ≥ 3	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Tocilizumab use	Х	Х	X	Х	
Corticosteroids use	х	Х	Х	Х	
ICU admission after CAR T-cell infusion	х	х		х	
EPO use after CAR T-cell infusion	Х	Х	Х	Х	
G-CSF use after CAR T-cell infusion	X	X	Х	Х	

The abbreviation ECOG denotes eastern cooperative oncology group, PS performance status, aaIPI age-adjusted international prognostic index, ASCT autologous stem cell transplantation, RBC red blood cells, axi-cel axicabtagene ciloleucel, tisa-cel tisagenlecleucel, CRS cytokine release syndrome, ICANS immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome, ICU intensive care unit, EPO erythropoietin and G-CSF granulocyte-colony stimulating factor.

Factors tested but not predictive were: hematopoietic cell transplant - comorbidity index (HCT-CI) at diagnostic, number of previous therapies, bridging therapy (yes vs no), bone marrow involvement at time of lymphodepletion and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) at infusion.

## 11 Table S2: Causes of death

Causes of death	N =	345
Toxicity	56	(16.2%)
Concurrent illness	4	(1.2%)
Lymphoma relapse/progression	267	(77.4%)
Other reason	8	(2.3%)
Unknown	10	(2.9%)
If toxicity, specify	N =	: 56
Acute respiratory distress and neurological impairment in septic shock, CRS and ICANS	1	(1.8%)
Intracranial bleeding in the context of thrombopenia	1	(1.8%)
Cerebral hemorrhage	1	(1.8%)
Covid-19	20	(35.7%)
CRS	4	(7.1%)
CRS + acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)	1	(1.8%)
Deterioration of clinical condition due to several post- infusion CAR T-cell complications	1	(1.8%)
Escherichia Coli and Pseudomonas Aeruginosa pneumopathy	1	(1.8%)
Febrile neutropenia	1	(1.8%)
Hemorrhagic stroke	1	(1.8%)
Pseudomonas Aeruginosa infection	1	(1.8%)
Klebsiella Pneumoniae infection (septic shock)	1	(1.8%)
Lung infection (aspergillosis)	1	(1.8%)
Multiple organ failure	1	(1.8%)
ICANS	2	(3.6%)
Pneumonia	1	(1.8%)
Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis and ICANS	1	(1.8%)
Septic shock	7	(12.5%)
Bacterial infection after surgery	1	(1.8%)
Infection and kidney failure	1	(1.8%)
Infection, stercoral peritonitis	1	(1.8%)
Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy with JC virus	1	(1.8%)
Multiple organ failure after cytomegalovirus infection	1	(1.8%)
Acute respiratory distress syndrome	1	(1.8%)
Sepsis	1	(1.8%)
Sepsis with documented Stenotrophomonas bacteriemia	1	(1.8%)
Missing	1	(1.8%)

The abbreviation CRS denotes cytokine release syndrome, ICANS immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome, and ARDS acute respiratory distress syndrome.

	No	transfusion	At	least one	
	_	transfusion N = 354	tra	ansfusion	Р
		IN = 334		N = 317	
Histology					
DLBCL, NOS	222	(62.7%)	232	(73.2%)	
PMBL	16	(4.5%)	11	(3.5%)	
HGBL	16	(4.5%)	18	(5.7%)	0.021
PCNSL	1	(0.3%)	0	(0.0%)	
Transformed FL	59	(16.7%)	31	(9.8%)	
Others*	40	(11.3%)	25	(7.9%)	
Age at CAR T-cell infusion					
Median (range), years	62	(18-82)	65	(18-80)	0.009
Age > 60 years	193	(54.5%)	204	(64.4%)	0.012
ECOG performance status at CAR T-cell					
infusion					
0 - 1	265	(88.9%)	175	(72.6%)	<0.001
≥ 2	33	(11.1%)	66	(27.4%)	
Missing	56		76		
Number of prior lines					
Median (range)	2	(2-10)	3	(2 - 9)	0.062
Refractory to first line	145	(41.8%)	157	(49.7%)	0.043
Previous HSCT		•			
Autologous	76	(21.5%)	42	(13.2%)	0.006
Allogeneic	4	(1.1%)	4	(1.3%)	1.000
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-					
cell infusion (excluding bridge)	249	(70.3%)	254	(80.1%)	0.004
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-					
cell infusion (including bridge)	319	(90.1%)	299	(94.3%)	0.046
HCT-CI score at CAR T-cell infusion					
1 - 2	122	(88.4%)	115	(89.1%)	0.947
≥3	16	(11.6%)	14	(10.9%)	
aalPI at diagnostic		( )		( ,	
0 - 1	142	(43.6%)	88	(31.7%)	
≥ 2	184	(56.4%)	190	(68.3%)	0.003
Missing	28	(001111)	39	(00.07-)	
Bulk disease (> 5 cm) at CAR T-cell infusion	83	(23.4%)	121	(38.2%)	<0.001
Bridging therapy	286	(80.8%)	269	(84.9%)	0.184
Type of bridging therapy	200	(80.870)	203	(84.370)	0.104
Chemotherapy	232	(81.1%)	237	(88.1%)	0.026
Radiotherapy	26	(9.1%)	23	(8.6%)	0.882
Corticosteroids	27	(9.4%)	22	(8.2%)	0.655
Monoclonal antibody	203	(71.0%)	199	(74.0%)	0.448
Other immunotherapy	12	(4.2%)	155	(5.6%)	0.555
IMiD	23	(8.0%)	15	(5.6%)	0.333
Other bridge**	17	(5.9%)	18	(6.7%)	0.730
Type of CAR T-cell		(3.370)	+ -5	(5.7,0)	3.730
Tisa-cel	149	(42.1%)	93	(29.3%)	<0.001
Axi-cel	205	(57.9%)	224	(70.7%)	.5.501
CAR-HEMATOTOX score before	203	(37.370)		(, 0., /0]	1
lymphodepletion					
Low (0-1)	147	(46.7%)	81	(27.4%)	<0.001
Low (0-1) High (≥ 2)	168	(53.3%)	215	(72.6%)	\0.001
Missing	39	(33.370)	213	(12.0/0]	1
Cytopenia grade ≥ 3 before lymphodepletion	33				
Cytopeina grade 2 5 before lymphodepletion	l		I		I

Anemia	13	(3.8%)	28	(8.9%)	0.009
Thrombocytopenia	17	(4.9%)	24	(7.7%)	0.149
Neutropenia	32	(9.6%)	32	(11.2%)	0.597
Ferritin before lymphodepletion					
Median (range), μg/L	400	(11.3 - 15209)	864	(5- 27809)	<0.001
> UNL	187	(61.7%)	229	(84.8%)	<0.001
Missing	51		47		

The abbreviation DLBCL denotes diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, NOS not otherwise specified, PMBL primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, HGBL high grade B-cell lymphoma, PCNSL primary central nervous system lymphoma, FL follicular lymphoma, CAR chimeric antigen receptor, ECOG eastern cooperative oncology group, HSCT hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, HCT-CI hematopoietic cell transplant – comorbidity index, aaIPI age-adjusted international prognostic index, IMiD immunomodulatory drug, tisa-cel tisagenlecleucel, axi-cel axicabtagene ciloleucel and UNL upper normal limit.

- \*Others are: T-cell/histiocyte-rich LBCL (n=10), 3A-follicular lymphoma (n=1), transformed marginal-zone lymphoma (n=19), transformed chronic lymphocytic leukemia (n=12), transformed Hodgkin (n=8), DLBCL post PCNSL (n=3), DLBCL leg type (n=2), post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (n=1), "grey zone" meaning with features between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma (n=6).
- \*\* Others are: intrathecal chemotherapy (n=7), ibrutinib (n=20), lenalidomide (n=3), oral etoposide (n=1), missing (n=4).

	No	transfusion		least one	
		N = 419	transfusion		Р
			ľ	N = 252	
Histology	262	(62.00()	404	(75.00()	
DLBCL, NOS	263	(62.8%)	191	(75.8%)	
PMBL	22	(5.3%)	5	(2.0%)	
HGBL	17	(4.1%)	17	(6.7%)	<0.001
PCNSL	1	(0.2%)	0	(0.0%)	
Transformed FL	67	(16.0%)	23	(9.1%)	
Others*	49	(11.7%)	16	(6.3%)	
Age at CAR T-cell infusion		(10.00)		(10 =0)	
Median (range), years	62	(18-82)	64	(18-79)	0.009
Age > 60 years	236	(56.3%)	161	(63.9%)	0.062
ECOG performance status at CAR T-cell infusion					
0 - 1	304	(87.1%)	136	(71.6%)	<0.001
≥ 2	45	(12.9%)	54	(28.4%)	
Missing	70		62		
Number of prior lines					
Median (range)	2	(2 – 9)	2.5	(2 – 10)	0.725
Refractory to first line	179	(43.3%)	123	(49.2%)	0.148
Previous HSCT					
Autologous	81	(19.3%)	37	(14.7%)	0.143
Allogeneic	4	(1.0%)	4	(1.6%)	0.482
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell	200	(=1.10()		(0.1.00()	
infusion (excluding bridge)	298	(71.1%)	205	(81.3%)	0.003
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell					
infusion (including bridge)	378	(90.2%)	240	(95.2%)	0.026
HCT-CI score at CAR T-cell infusion					
1 - 2	149	(90.9%)	88	(85.4%)	0.257
≥3	15	(9.1%)	15	(14.6%)	
aalPI at diagnostic		( /		, ,	
0 - 1	158	(41.3%)	72	(32.6%)	
≥ 2	225	(58.7%)	149	(67.4%)	0.037
Missing	36	(30.770)	31	(07.170)	
Bulk disease (> 5 cm) at CAR T-cell infusion	118	(28.4%)	86	(34.7%)	0.099
Bridging therapy	338	(80.7%)	217	(86.1%)	0.074
Type of bridging therapy	338	(80.770)	21/	(80.170)	0.074
Chemotherapy	277	(66.1%)	192	(76.2%)	0.041
Radiotherapy	34	(8.1%)	192	(6.0%)	0.041
Corticosteroids	_	(8.1%) (9.5%)		(7.8%)	0.543
Monoclonal antibody	32 240	(9.5%) (71.0%)	17 162	(7.8%) (74.7%)	0.343
•	16				0.381
Other immunotherapy IMiD	23	(4.7%) (6.8%)	11 15	(5.1%) (6.9%)	
Other bridge**	18	(6.8%) (5.3%)	17	(6.9%) (7.8%)	1.000 0.283
Type of CAR T-cell	10	(3.3/0)	1/	(7.0/0)	0.263
Tisa-cel	172	(41.3%)	60	(27.40/)	<0.001
	173		192	(27.4%) (72.6%)	\0.001
Axi-cel	246	(58.7%)	183	(72.6%)	
CAR-HEMATOTOX score before lymphodepletion	174	(45 50/)		(24.20/)	
Low (0-1)	171	(45.5%)	57	(24.3%)	<0.001
High (≥ 2)	205	(54.5%)	178	(75.7%)	
Missing	43		17		1
Cytopenia grade ≥ 3 before lymphodepletion		(4.00%)		(0.50)	
Anemia	20	(4.9%)	21	(8.5%)	0.069
Thrombocytopenia	17	(4.1%)	24	(9.7%)	0.007

Neutropenia	37	(9.5%)	27	(11.7%)	0.414	
Ferritin before lymphodepletion						l
Median (range), μg/L	440	(11-15209)	846	(5-27809)	<0.001	l
> UNL	242	(66.3%)	174	(83.7%)	<b>\0.001</b>	l
Missing	54		44			l

The abbreviation DLBCL denotes diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, NOS not otherwise specified, PMBL primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, HGBL high grade B-cell lymphoma, PCNSL primary central nervous system lymphoma, FL follicular lymphoma, CAR chimeric antigen receptor, ECOG eastern cooperative oncology group, HSCT hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, HCT-Cl hematopoietic cell transplant – comorbidity index, aalPl age-adjusted international prognostic index, IMiD immunomodulatory drug, tisa-cel tisagenlecleucel, axi-cel axicabtagene ciloleucel and UNL upper normal limit.

- \*Others are: T-cell/histiocyte-rich LBCL (n=10), 3A-follicular lymphoma (n=1), transformed marginal-zone lymphoma (n=19), transformed chronic lymphocytic leukemia (n=12), transformed Hodgkin (n=8), DLBCL post PCNSL (n=3), DLBCL leg type (n=2), post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (n=1), "grey zone" meaning with features between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma (n=6).
- \*\* Others are: intrathecal chemotherapy (n=7), ibrutinib (n=20), lenalidomide (n=3), oral etoposide (n=1), missing (n=4).

**Table S5:** Comparison of baseline characteristics between transfused and non-transfused patients, for late RBC transfusions.

	No	transfusion N = 378	tra	least one insfusion N = 172	Р
Histology DLBCL, NOS PMBL HGBL	243 17 17	(64.3%) (4.5%) (4.5%)	130 4 10	(75.6%) (2.3%) (5.8%)	0.049
PCNSL Transformed FL Others*	1 58 42	(0.3%) (15.3%) (11.1%)	0 19 9	(0.0%) (11.0%) (5.2%)	
Age at CAR T-cell infusion  Median (range), years  Age > 60 years	63 219	(18-82) (57.9%)	64 104	(25-80) (60.5%)	0.486 0.641
ECOG performance status at CAR T-cell infusion 0 - 1 ≥ 2 Missing	281 40 57	(87.5%) (12.5%)	98 32 42	(75.4%) (24.6%)	<0.001
Number of prior lines Median (range)	2	(2 – 9)	3	(2 – 10)	0.399
Refractory to first line	159	(42.7%)	82	(48.0%)	0.266
Previous HSCT Autologous Allogeneic	73 4	(19.3%) (1.1%)	34 3	(19.8%) (1.7%)	0.908 0.683
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell infusion (excluding bridge)	266	(70.4%)	134	(77.9%)	0.079
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell infusion (including bridge)	338	(89.4%)	161	(93.6%)	0.153
HCT-CI score at CAR T-cell infusion 1 - 2 ≥ 3	137 15	(90.1%) (9.9%)	58 6	(90.6%) (9.4%)	0.946
aalPI at diagnostic 0 - 1 ≥ 2 Missing	146 196 36	(42.7%) (57.3%)	54 100 18	(35.1%) (64.9%)	0.115
Bulk disease (> 5 cm) at CAR T-cell infusion	102	(27.2%)	48	(28.2%)	0.836
Bridging therapy	305	(80.7%)	147	(85.5%)	0.830
Type of bridging therapy Chemotherapy	246	(80.7%)	129	(87.8%)	0.063
Radiotherapy Corticosteroids	32 31	(10.5%) (10.2%)	12 11	(8.2%) (7.5%)	0.501 0.393
Monoclonal antibody Other immunotherapy IMiD	216 13 21	(70.8%) (4.3%) (6.9%)	108 9 6	(73.5%) (6.1%) (4.1%)	0.579 0.484 0.293
Other bridge**  Type of CAR T-cell	19	(6.2%)	8	(5.4%)	0.834
Tisa-cel Axi-cel	139 239	(36.8%) (63.2%)	38 134	(22.1%) (77.9%)	<0.001
CAR-HEMATOTOX score before lymphodepletion Low (0-1) High (≥ 2) Missing	152 188 38	(44.7%) (55.3%)	41 119 12	(25.6%) (74.4%)	<0.001
Cytopenia grade ≥ 3 before lymphodepletion Anemia Thrombocytopenia	15 18	(4.0%) (4.8%)	16 10	(9.5%) (6.0%)	<b>0.015</b> 0.537

Neutropenia	34	(9.6%)	23	(14.5%)	0.128
Ferritin before lymphodepletion					
Median (range), μg/L	414	(11-27809)	771	(5-14188)	10.004
> UNL	212	(64.4%)	120	(83.9%)	<0.001
Missing	49		29		

The abbreviation DLBCL denotes diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, NOS not otherwise specified, PMBL primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, HGBL high grade B-cell lymphoma, PCNSL primary central nervous system lymphoma, FL follicular lymphoma, CAR chimeric antigen receptor, ECOG eastern cooperative oncology group, HSCT hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, HCT-Cl hematopoietic cell transplant – comorbidity index, aalPl age-adjusted international prognostic index, IMiD immunomodulatory drug, tisa-cel tisagenlecleucel, axi-cel axicabtagene ciloleucel and UNL upper normal limit.

\*Others are: T-cell/histiocyte-rich LBCL, 3A-follicular lymphoma, transformed marginal-zone lymphoma, transformed chronic lymphocytic leukemia, transformed Hodgkin, DLBCL post PCNSL, DLBCL leg type, post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder, "grey zone" meaning with features between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Others are: intrathecal chemotherapy, ibrutinib, lenalidomide, oral etoposide, missing.

			1	1	
	No	No transfusion		least one	
		N = 369		ansfusion	Р
				N = 181	
Histology	225	(6.1.00()		(== ==()	
DLBCL, NOS	236	(64.0%)	137	(75.7%)	
PMBL	17	(4.6%)	4	(2.2%)	
HGBL	18	(4.9%)	9	(5.0%)	0.082
PCNSL	1	(0.3%)	0	(0.0%)	
Transformed FL	57	(15.4%)	20	(11.0%)	
Others*	40	(10.8%)	11	(6.1%)	
Age at CAR T-cell infusion			_		
Median (range), years	63	(18-82)	64	(20-80)	0.224
Age > 60 years	212	(57.5%)	111	(61.3%)	0.408
ECOG performance status at CAR T-cell infusion					
0 - 1	272	(76.0%)	107	(61.5%)	0.002
≥ 2	38	(10.6%)	34	(19.5%)	0.002
Missing	59		40		
Number of prior lines				<u> </u>	
Median (range)	2	(2 – 9)	3	(2 - 10)	0.353
Refractory to first line	155	(42.7%)	86	(47.8%)	0.272
Previous HSCT				-	
Autologous	73	(19.8%)	34	(18.8%)	0.819
Allogeneic	3	(0.8%)	4	(2.2%)	0.225
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
infusion (excluding bridge)	255	(69.1%)	145	(80.1%)	0.008
Chemotherapy within 6 months before CAR T-cell					
infusion (including bridge)	326	(88.3%)	173	(95.6%)	0.005
HCT-CI score at CAR T-cell infusion			1		
1 - 2	129	(89.6%)	66	(91.7%)	
≥3	15	(10.4%)	6	(8.3%)	0.598
Missing	13	(10.470)	1 0	(0.570)	
aalPI at diagnostic			1		
0 - 1	147	(43.9%)	53	(32.9%)	0.024
≥ 2	188	(56.1%)	108	(67.1%)	0.024
Missing	34	(50.170)	20	(07.170)	
Bulk disease (> 5 cm) at CAR T-cell infusion		(26.00/)		(20.70/)	0.262
	95	(26.0%)	55	(30.7%)	0.262
Bridging therapy	295	(79.9%)	157	(86.7%)	0.058
Type of bridging therapy	222	(62 O)/\	142	(70.00/)	ZO 001
Chemotherapy	232	(62.9%)	143	(79.0%)	<0.001
Radiotherapy	33	(8.9%)	11	(6.1%)	0.183
Corticosteroids	32	(10.8%)	10	(6.4%)	0.129
Monoclonal antibody	204	(69.2%)	120	(76.4%)	0.125
Other immunotherapy	15	(5.1%)	7	(4.5%)	0.823
IMiD	20	(6.8%)	7	(4.5%)	0.407
Other bridge**	19	(6.4%)	8	(5.1%)	0.679
Type of CAR T-cell	400	/2F 20/1		(26.69()	0.000
Tisa-cel	130	(35.2%)	47	(26.0%)	0.033
Axi-cel	239	(64.8%)	134	(74.0%)	
CAR-HEMATOTOX score before lymphodepletion				(	
Low (0-1)	152	(45.4%)	41	(24.8%)	<0.001
High (≥ 2)	183	(54.6%)	124	(75.2%)	
Missing	34		16		
Cytopenia grade ≥ 3 before lymphodepletion					
Anemia	15	(4.1%)	16	(8.9%)	0.030

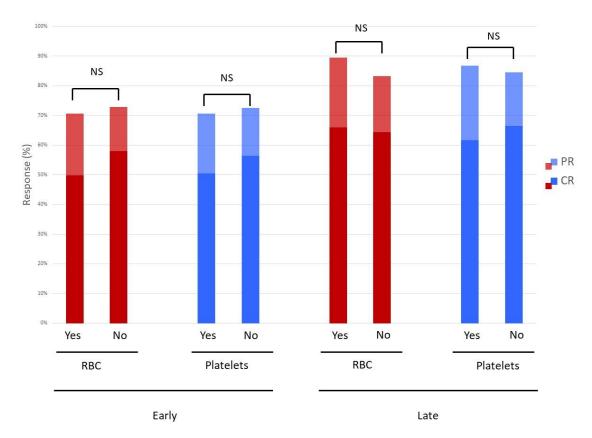
Thrombocytopenia	17	(4.7%)	11	(6.2%)	0.536
Neutropenia	34	(9.9%)	23	(13.7%)	0.231
Ferritin before lymphodepletion					
Median (range), μg/L	402	(11-27809)	804	(5-14188)	<0.001
> UNL	205	(63.1%)	127	(86.4%)	<0.001
Missing	44		34		

The abbreviation DLBCL denotes diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, NOS not otherwise specified, PMBL primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, HGBL high grade B-cell lymphoma, PCNSL primary central nervous system lymphoma, FL follicular lymphoma, CAR chimeric antigen receptor, ECOG eastern cooperative oncology group, HSCT hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, HCT-Cl hematopoietic cell transplant – comorbidity index, aalPl age-adjusted international prognostic index, IMiD immunomodulatory drug, tisa-cel tisagenlecleucel, axi-cel axicabtagene ciloleucel and UNL upper normal limit.

\*Others are: T-cell/histiocyte-rich LBCL, 3A-follicular lymphoma, transformed marginal-zone lymphoma, transformed chronic lymphocytic leukemia, transformed Hodgkin, DLBCL post PCNSL, DLBCL leg type, post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder, "grey zone" meaning with features between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Others are: intrathecal chemotherapy, ibrutinib, lenalidomide, oral etoposide, missing.

## Figure S1: Best overall response rates in transfused and non-transfused populations, at early and late phase.



73 The abbreviation NS denotes non-significant, PR partial response, CR complete response, RBC red blood cells.

**Figure S2**: Progression-free survival (PFS) after CAR T-cells infusion for transfused and non-transfused patients. (A) RBC transfusion at the early phase, (B) RBC transfusion at the late phase, (C) platelets transfusion at the early phase, (D) platelets transfusion at the late phase.

