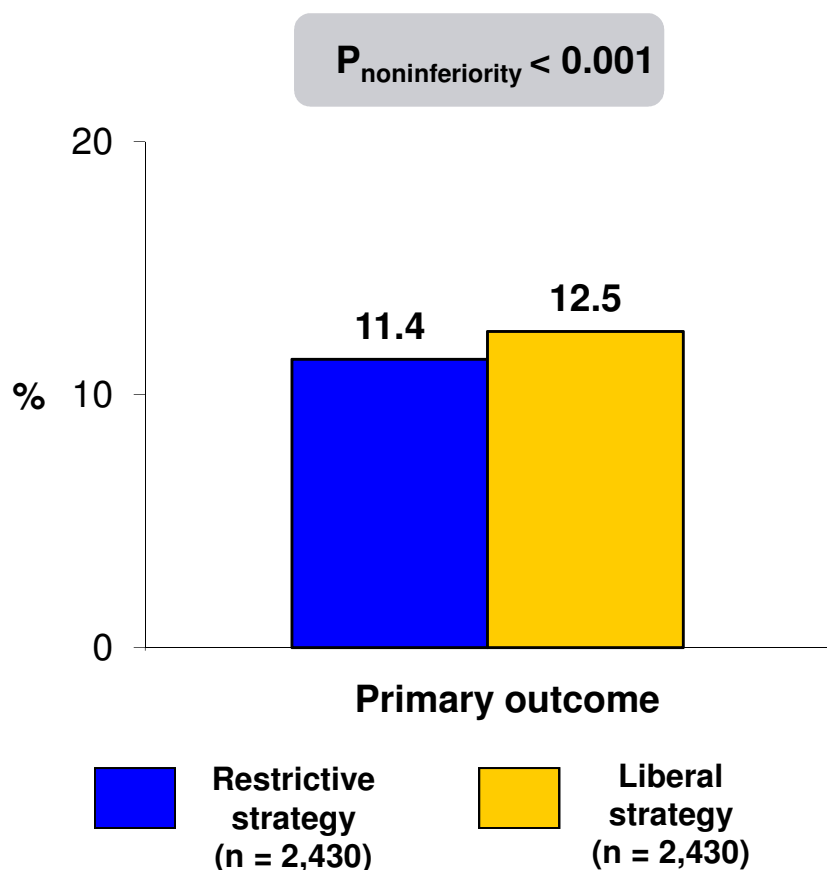


TRICS III

Trial design: Patients scheduled for on-pump cardiac surgery were randomized in a 1:1 fashion to either a restrictive transfusion strategy or a more liberal strategy. Patients were followed for 28 days.



Results

- Primary outcome, death/MI/stroke/renal failure: restrictive vs. liberal transfusion strategies: 11.4% vs. 12.5%, p for noninferiority < 0.001
- ≥ 1 unit RBCs transfused: 52.3% vs. 72.3%, $p < 0.05$; Plasma transfusion: 23.5% vs. 27.1%, $p < 0.05$
- Median length of stay (LOS): 8 vs. 8, $p < 0.05$; ICU median LOS: 2.1 vs. 1.9, $p < 0.05$

Conclusions

- Restrictive RBC transfusion strategy (hemoglobin < 7.5 mg/dl) resulted in fewer RBC transfusions than more liberal RBC transfusion strategy (hemoglobin < 9.5 mg/dl); noninferior for major clinical outcomes among patients undergoing on-pump cardiac surgery
- Important findings; will likely influence perioperative guidelines