

Ensuring Continuity and Resilience of the U.S. Blood System

*Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and
Emergencies*

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | May 4, 2026

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**America's
Blood
Centers**
Powered by Community.



Blood cannot be manufactured. It can only be collected from willing donors, one unit at a time.

About ABC

Since 1962, America's Blood Centers is North America's largest network of non-profit community blood centers

VISION

A thriving blood center community ensuring safe and available blood for every patient in need.

Our Mission

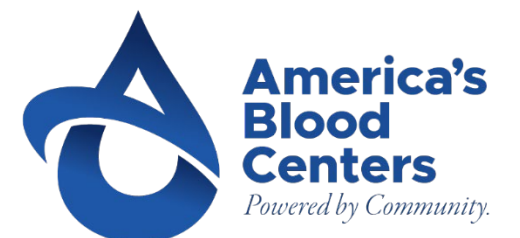
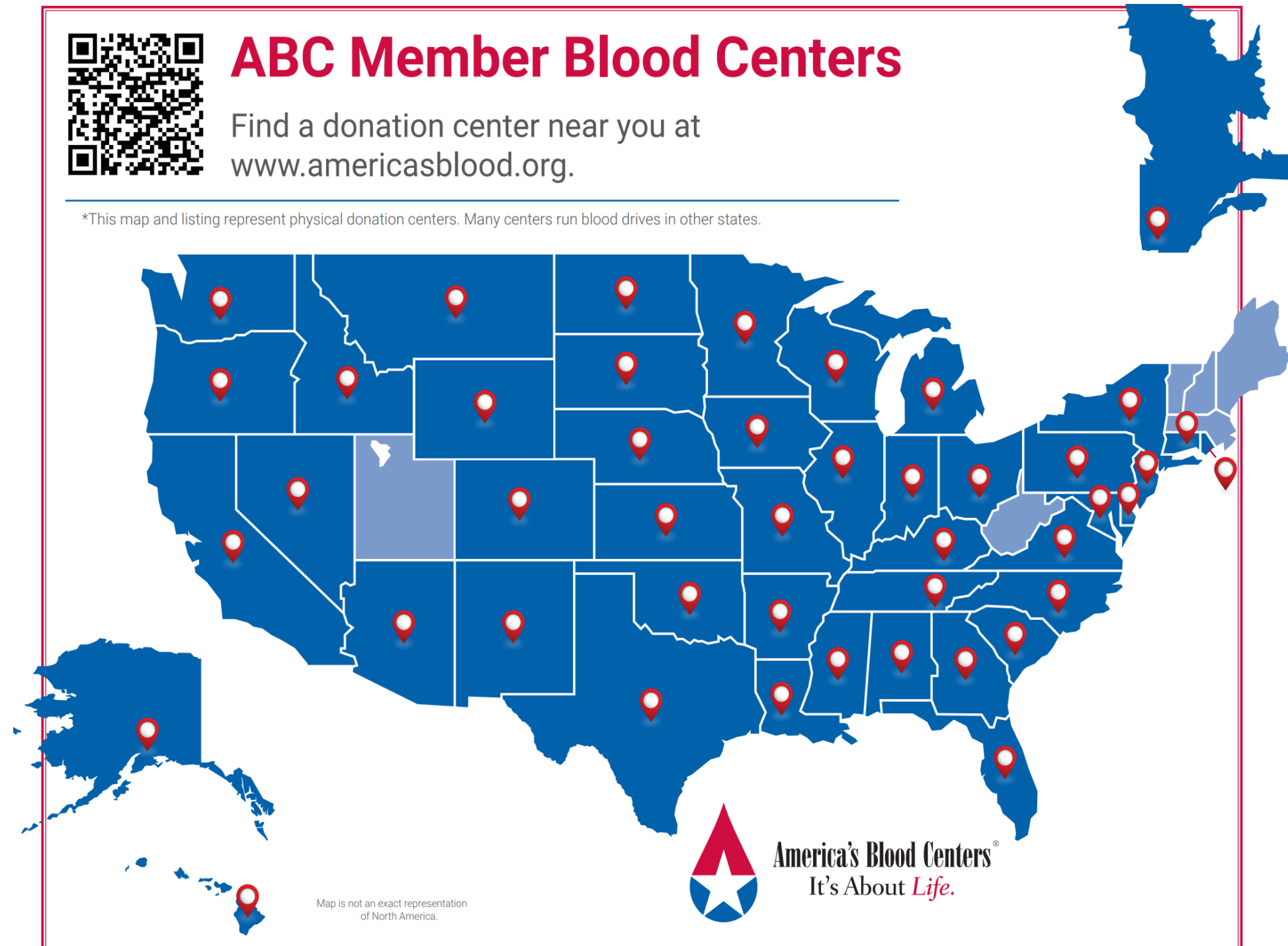
Amplify and advance the contributions of community blood centers to individuals, communities, and the healthcare system.



ABC Member Blood Centers

Find a donation center near you at www.americasblood.org.

*This map and listing represent physical donation centers. Many centers run blood drives in other states.



ADRP, the Association for Blood Donor Professionals

- 1,100 members
- 37 countries around the globe with 10 from developing nations
- Focus on donor collections, communications, operations, and recruitment



ABC Member Snapshot

NO. OF CENTERS

47

ANNUAL
COLLECTIONS

7.5M

WORKFORCE

25,000

HOSPITALS SERVED

3,500

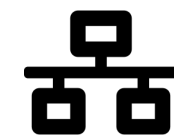
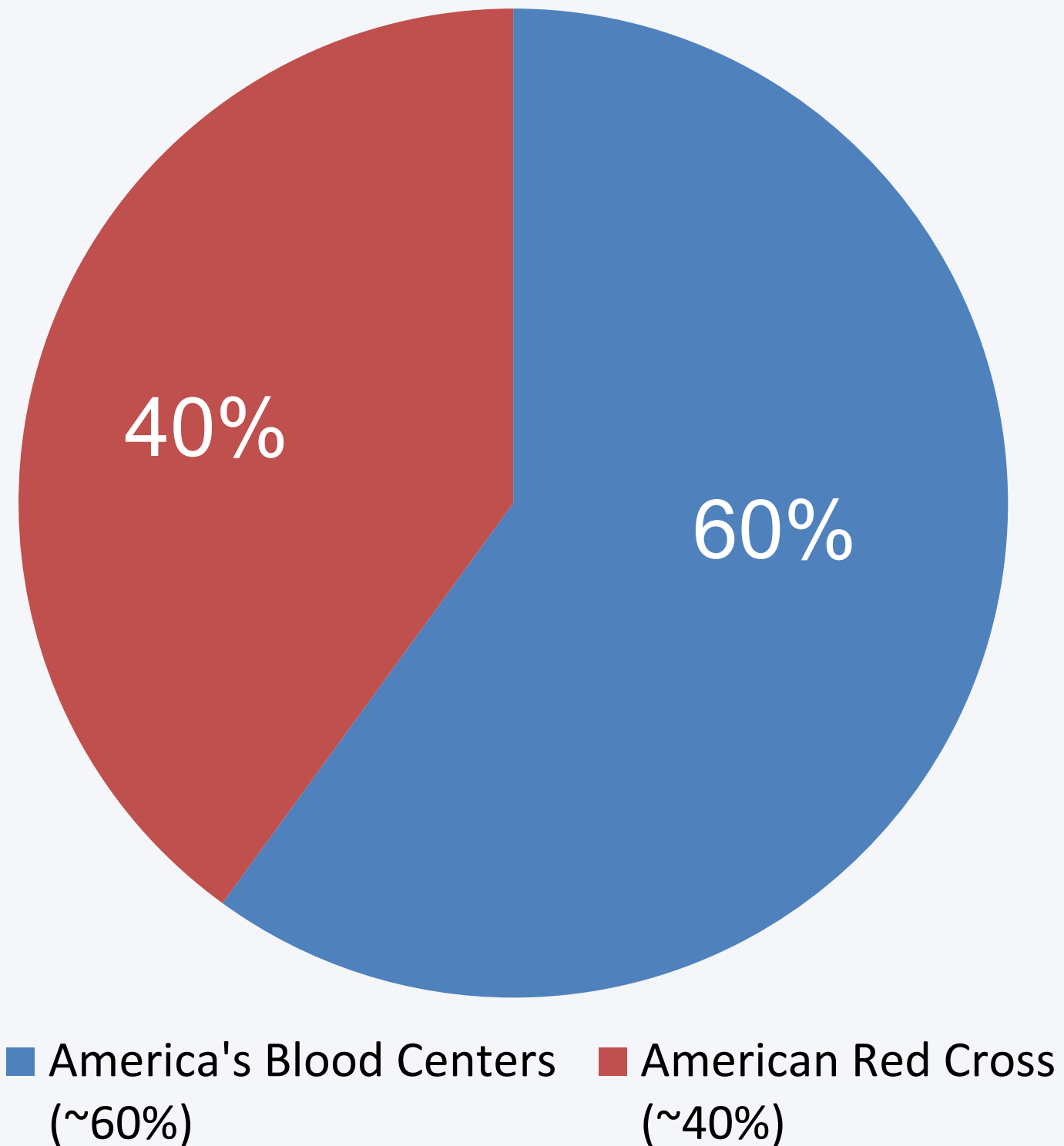
COMMUNITIES SERVED

1,100

COLLECTION SITES

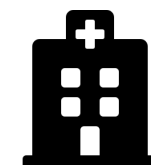
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Who Collects America's Blood?



Independent Nonprofits (America's Blood Centers and American Red Cross)

ABC member blood centers are community-based, mission-driven organizations, not a federal system, not a single supply chain.



Hospital Blood Banks

A smaller but critical third segment; some hospitals collect their own supply.



No Central Command Authority

This decentralized model builds regional resilience, but means no single entity controls the national blood supply in an emergency.

The Donation Ecosystem: Fragilities at the Source



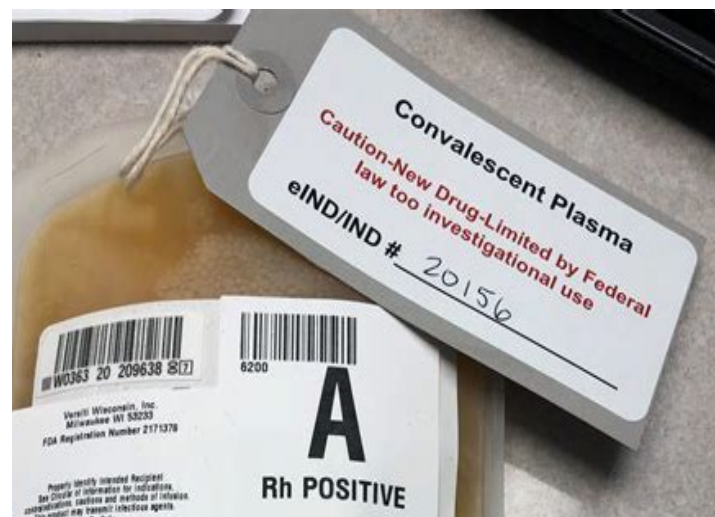
Donor Supply Surges

September 11th Experience



Infrastructure Dependencies

COVID-19 Pandemic

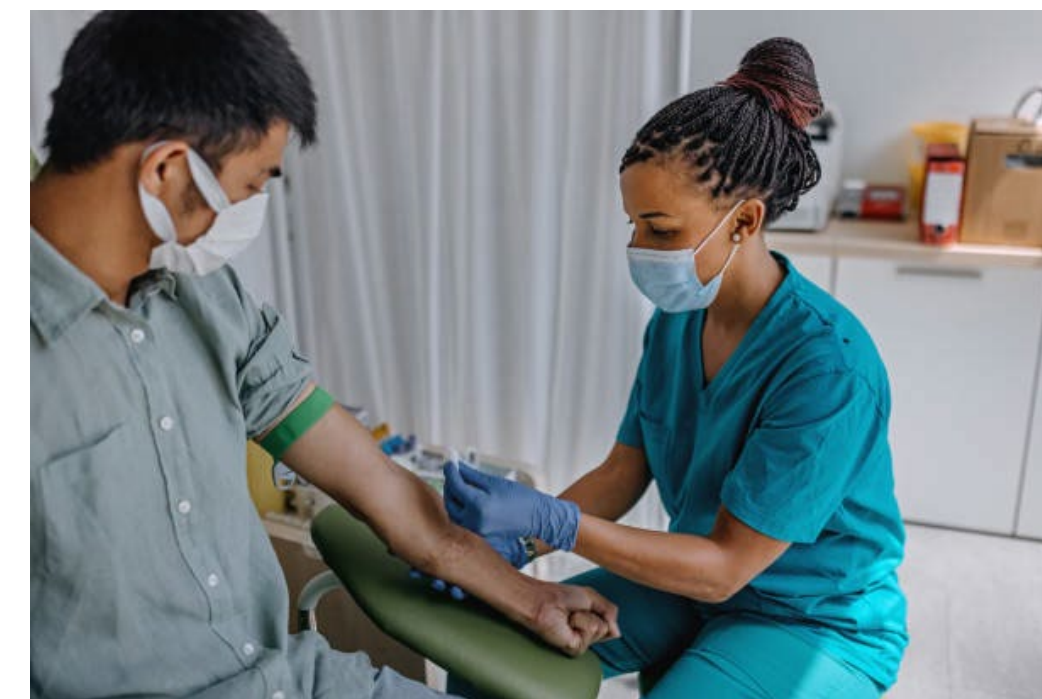


Blood Center Cyberattacks



Workforce Vulnerabilities

Declining Workforce



Essential Inputs Beyond Donors

Key Manufacturing Sites Blood Bags and Machines



Key Testing Supply Manufacturing



Key Reagent Manufacturing



Regulatory & Market Structure: Conditions That Amplify Risk

1

FDA
Biological
Product
Regulation

2

Funding,
Reimbursement
& Thin Margins

3

No Strategic
National
Blood
Reserve

4

Mutual Aid

Where Buffers Exist and Where They Don't

✓ STRONG

- **Interorganizational mutual aid:** ABC member network, AABB Interorganizational Task Force on Domestic Disasters and Acts of Terrorism, Blood Emergency Readiness Corps (BERC).
- Shelf-life management and regional inventory redistribution.
- Strong FDA regulatory framework ensuring product safety and traceability.
- Blood center community's track record of responding to mass casualty events.

✗ WEAK OR ABSENT

- Limited federal emergency procurement backstop for blood products and supplies.
- Limited centralized supply visibility across blood centers and hospital blood banks. Voluntary reporting, no federal real-time inventory dashboard.
- Platelet supply has 5 – 7 day shelf life; almost no buffer time under surge conditions.
- Federal role in blood supply emergency response is coordinated, but it can be better defined in terms of ownership.

Key Takeaways

ITEM

01

Blood is an infrastructure, not a commodity.

ITEM

02

The decentralized model is both a strength and a vulnerability.

ITEM

03

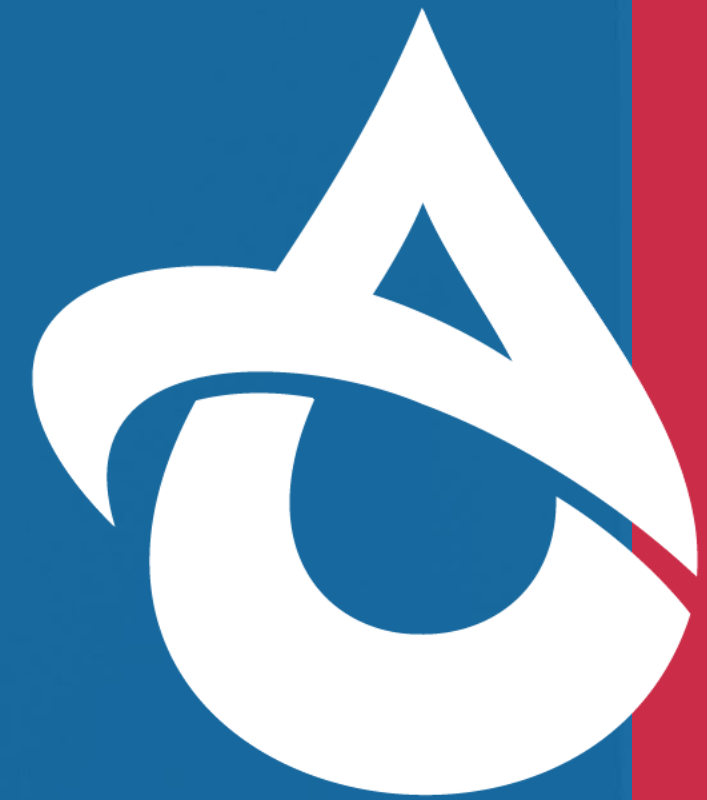
Market and reimbursement incentives do not reward resilience.

ITEM

04

Federal accountability for blood supply continuity is needed.

Thank you!



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