

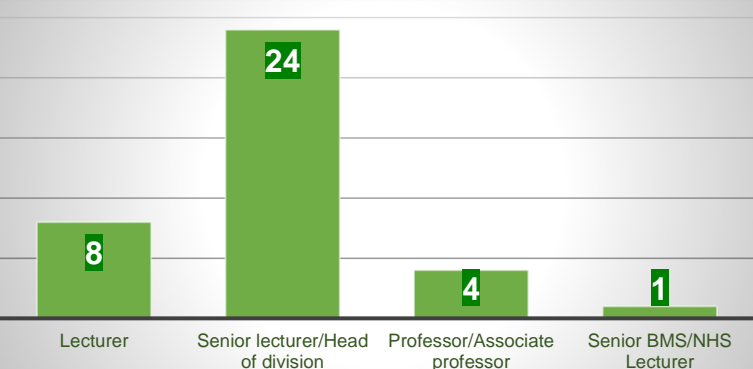


Project Summary S2 – Undergraduate provision of transfusion content in IBMS accredited degrees

As part of NHS Blood and Transplant's '**Transfusion laboratory safety**' initiative, cited within the Transfusion 2024 5-year plan for clinical and laboratory transfusion, the Transfusion 2024 (T24) team sent out a short survey in January 2024 to all lecturers delivering transfusion content on IBMS accredited undergraduate BSc Biomedical Science degree courses (inc. Applied). A previous survey sent out to hospital laboratories in 2022 via the UK Transfusion Laboratory Collaborative asked, '*What is your grade of satisfaction with the level of education of newly HCPC registered Biomedical Scientists of blood transfusion?*' and the results were '*The majority of respondents were not satisfied with the level of education*'.

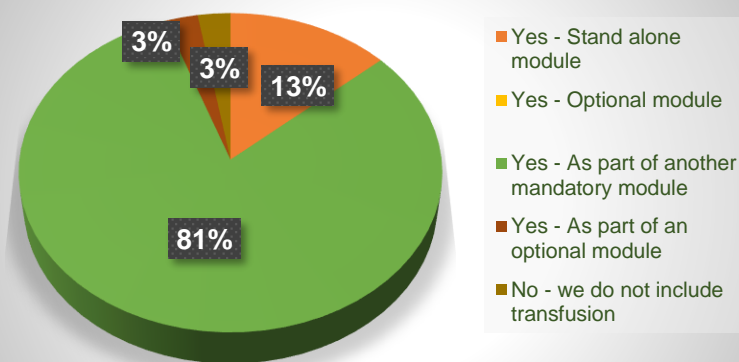
The main aim of this survey was to identify knowledge gaps within our Biomedical Scientist workforce from degree to laboratory and provide recommendations and support where possible. Out of 53 universities contacted via the IBMS, 37 responded giving us a **70% response rate**. This document provides a summary of the findings and subsequent desired actions.

Respondents job titles



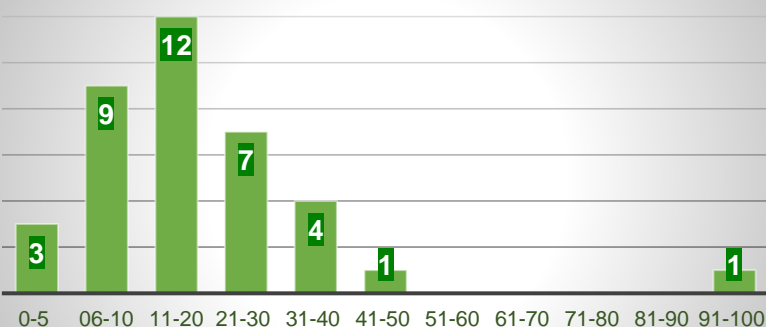
65% of respondents were senior lecturers or head of the division.

Do you have a designated Transfusion Science module in your Biomedical Science degree?



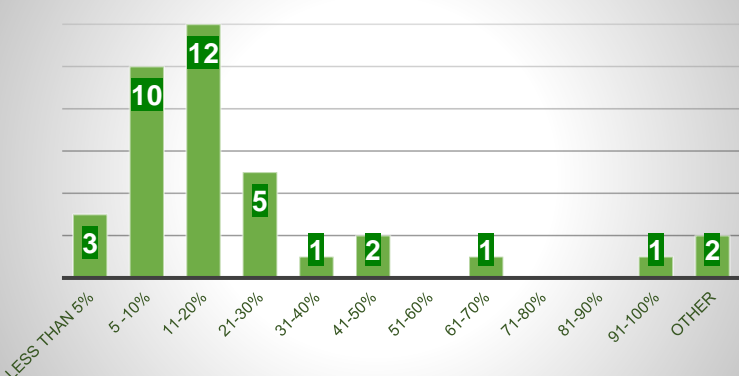
81% teach transfusion as part of another mandatory module. **1 (3%)** did not include transfusion.

How many hours of teaching is allocated to Transfusion Science during this degree?



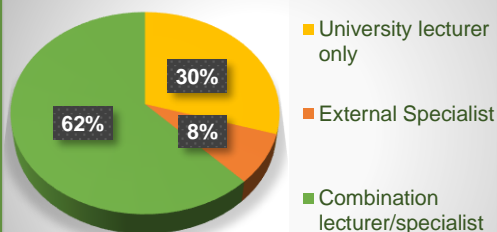
Hours of teaching ranged between 4-100 however the majority was between 11-20 hours (*The 100 hours is the course with a standalone transfusion module*).

What percentage of the Transfusion module counts towards the final year's mark?

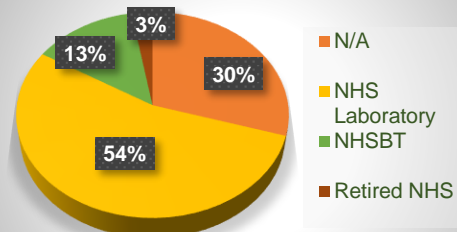


The percentage for the final mark varied from <5% to 100% (mainly between 5-20%). Only 2 were 50% of the final mark when shared with Haematology.

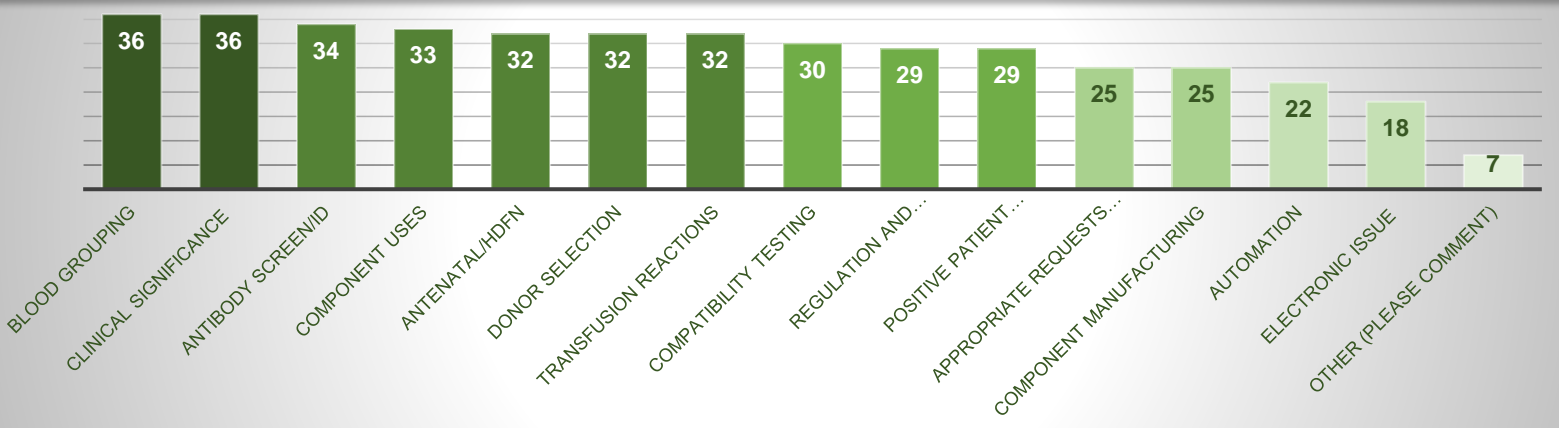
Who delivers the majority of transfusion content?



If an external specialist delivers content where is their main /alternate place of employment?

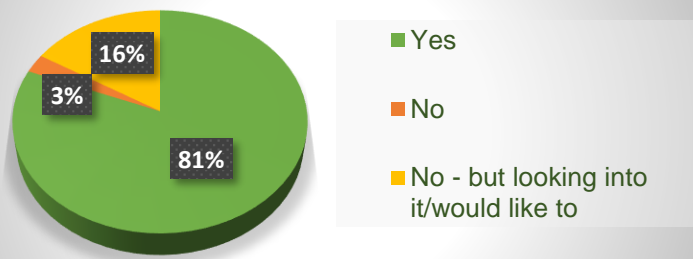


What transfusion content is covered? (36 university responses/1 not taught)

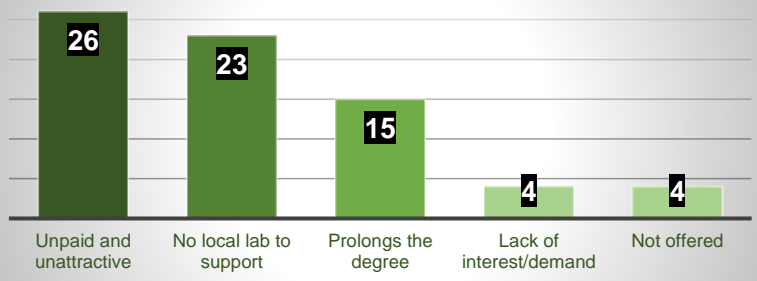


Blood grouping and antibodies are covered by all. 'Other' content covered included: Bone marrow transplant and stem cell processing, transfusion transmitted disease, alternatives to transfusion, transfusion requests related to haematology eg: anaemia, patient choice and beliefs, Hep B, HIV and CJD.

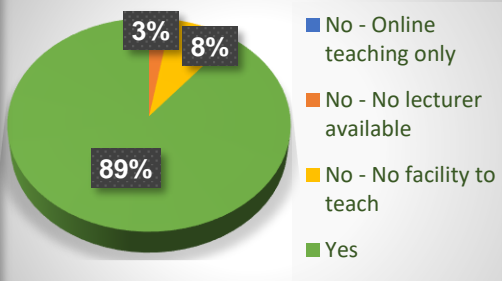
Do you offer a placement year for students with an NHS/private laboratory?



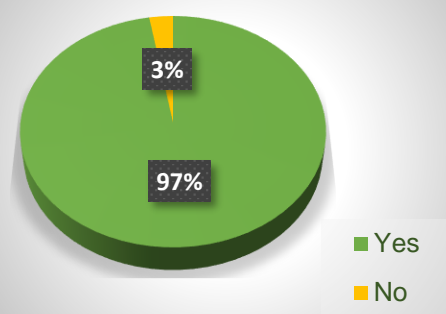
What are the barriers are for students wishing to carry out a year's placement?



Does the transfusion module include any practical laboratory sessions?
11% have no practical teaching



If NHSBT were to provide an online session for lecturers on up-to-date training requirements for Biomedical Scientists, would you be interested?



We listened to your comments

'I am really keen to improve and develop transfusion content delivered as part of our course - particularly in terms of enhancing the laboratory practical elements'

'Development of an online video freely available demonstrating Transfusion techniques would greatly benefit students'

'I try very hard to equip students with the information and skills they need to work in a transfusion lab, but I have a cohort of 150+ students and only a couple each year decide to pursue haematology / transfusion after graduation'

Transfusion 2024 Actions

- Discuss the findings with IBMS and the proposal of a standalone transfusion module.
- **100% would be interested in the provision of a slide deck from NHSBT** and 97% would like the option of an accompanying tutorial containing current transfusion content (1 tutor already NHSBT). T24 to contact respondents.
- T24 to promote the use of virtual reality headsets for transfusion training as **11% of courses do not contain a practice element**. The VR programmes replicate transfusion laboratory practices, benefitting students and promoting the discipline of transfusion.
- **14% already use NEQAS TACT (training, assessment competency tool)** as an online training programme and **54% would like more information**.