


**South East Regional Transfusion Team
Wednesday 14 December 2022 (13:00 – 14:30)
MINUTES**

Attendees	
Kerry Dowling (KD)	Howard Wakeling (HW) (part of the meeting)
Fatts Chowdhury (FC)	Kim East (KE)
Tanya Hawkins (TH)	Susan Mitchell (SM)
Jonathan Ricks (JR)	Anwen Davies (AD)
Ruth O'Donnell (RO'D)	Lisa March (LM)
Shabana Tufail (ST)	Liz Tatam (LT)
Frances Moll (FM) (Minutes)	
Apologies	
Zoe Sammut	Emily White
Nelson Johnson	Simon Stanworth
Simon Rang	Emma O'Donovan

MINUTES	
Welcome & Apologies – KD welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 July 2022 The Minutes were approved, and actions had been completed	
NBTC - 26 September 2022 Unfortunately, neither HW nor KD, were able to attend. The following are the key points provided from the NBTC RTC Chairs meeting: BMS empowerment, education & discussion group monthly virtual education sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good feedback from those involved with real progress to improving transfusion education for BMS staff. All encouraged to release staff to attend. Potential for a National platform for education events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has started to be cross over of RTCs delivering online teaching events. Developing a national list of upcoming events will help to avoid duplication • TEAMS has helped engagement from a wider audience but adds complexity with 200+ delegates. There have been IT issues with some sessions making it hard to deliver good material • A platform for hosting events needs to be considered by the NBTC to circumvent IT problems • Virtual education events are unlikely to go anytime soon SHOT resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SCRIPT group will be working on frameworks to help IT implementation and give guidance, to include vein-to-vein tracking. Hopefully, this will aid units to work through teething issues and avoid everyone having to work on the same problem-solving issues. Trials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWIFT has ethics approval and may start to progress in October (Major Trauma Centre relevant only) • Dried plasma project is ongoing and still in the development phase Virtual meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most regions are still running virtual meetings. This has allowed a large audience across large geographical areas, but perhaps limits the discussion and engagement of face to face. Transfusion 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is now an NBTC summary of deliverables in relation to the Tx2024 document. All are encouraged to review this document. 	
 <p>Paper D - Transfusion 2024 LS</p>	

- Most trusts have progressed towards aspects of this, but focus may be on vein-to-vein systems.

Budget

Members discussed the use of the annual budget, and the possibility of paying for courses/education events. AD explained there were a number of restrictions on how the budget could be used. If an application for funding to attend a course/educational event is received, the following is required: an outline of the event; the reason for attending and the benefit, the RTT is responsible for making the final decision. If approved, the individual would be asked to make a presentation or share their learning at a future SE event.

RTT Terms of Reference (ToRs)

Membership – it was agreed to look at attendance for the past three meetings. FM to draw up a list for KD and HW to review. **ACTION**
Members were happy with the content, with just one minor addition.

Recent Education Events (Feedback):

- **Transfusion Bites** – 147 attended on 11 October 2022. The event had been well received, with excellent feedback. People enjoy the short educational presentations.
- **TP/TLM joint meeting** – 36 attended on 9 November 2022. The meeting included ideas for the 2023 workplan, and the survey results for OPos in Bleeding Males. Presentations given included: Universal Plasma/Cryoprecipitate project update; Stock Sharing across a multi-site Trust; and a presentation by BSMS – Issues and wastage trends.
- **NBTC Emergency Planning Group event** – 12 October 2022 there had been excellent feedback, with a request for longer presentations in future

NHSBT & PBM Update



PBM update for Dec
RTT 2022.pdf

AD update –

- Stocks are in a much better position but will stay in Pre-Amber status until 2023. There is further guidance on the Blood Stocks page on Hospital and Sciences website.
- Regionally we had three amber alert drop-ins. There were some very good initiatives – which might be captured for a future education event.

FC – communication to be circulated today (14/12/2022) about continuing pre-amber status for Platelets and concerns for group A platelets. Raising this now, we are asking people to accept different groups, accept substitutions, we are looking at alternative ways to maximise what we have.

Post meeting note: The communication sent requested the following hospital action to support the supply of group A platelets and to avoid a potential shortage:

- Reduce your stockholding of group A platelets where possible. A small reduction will make a big difference
- Please do not request long dated platelets
- When time permits, match ABO group, rather than rely on group A platelets
- Accept and use both apheresis and pooled platelets for your patients (except where there is a requirement for HLA/HPA matched platelets)
- Accept [appropriate substitutions](#) of platelet components
- Ensure platelet transfusions are given in accordance with good clinical practice and national guidelines for [adults](#) and [children](#).

- Consider extending the interval between prophylactic transfusions if safe to do so
- Enter your platelet stock data via VANESA
- Please refer to [Blood Stocks Management Best Practice guidance on Inventory Management](#)
- Learn Pro has been replaced by nine new Blood Transfusion Training modules, created by the PBM Team and now available on eLearning for Health and Electronic Staff Record.
- Coming soon - QS138 Quality Insights – a benchmarking tool which will allow you to enter into a quality improvement cycle, unlike a one-off audit. This is currently out to pilot with a launch in the Spring 2023.
- Please look through the recent guidance updates – links on the attached presentation.
- SHOT – very good webinar - Transfusing Wisely held on 6th December covered appropriate use of Opos blood. [Webinar link](https://www.shotuk.org/resources/current-resources/webinars/) –.https://www.shotuk.org/resources/current-resources/webinars/
- BSMS Education Day – Blood Stocks are running day teaching sessions – there are six new dates for 2023 – do consider attending with your BMS staff. If we want VANESA and Blood Stocks data on our plan for new year, then we need to take advantage of these courses already available. <https://www.bloodstocks.co.uk/resources/education-events/>



December 2022 RTT
CSM.pdf

ST CSM Update

- There are a number of Updates on the website
- Continuing substituting Apos RBCs with 20% Aneg RBSs
- OBOS version 8.5.5 is out now with a number of important improvements.
- If you are interested in Advanced Transfusion Science Masterclass sessions -please go on the website to indicate yes/no – deadline 2nd January. <https://hospital.blood.co.uk/training/scientific-courses/>

Richard Whitmore is retiring at the end of January, and his work will be distributed between the CSMs.

RTC Workplan

- 2022 Review – most of the workplan was now complete, with some items to be taken forward to 2023.
- Plans for 2023
Ideas from the TP/TLM meeting to be circulated – **ACTION**
The Amber Alerts were very useful support sessions. It was good to see the region pulling together, and the profile of PBM raised within the Trusts’.
- Annual Summary – if members could provide a paragraph from the different groups to be included in the Summary – **deadline January 31**. TPs/TLMs to provide anything local to celebrate. **ACTION** – FM to send out an e-mail.

Planning date for 2023 – Tuesday 7 February.

Working Groups



OD Pos survey
2022.pdf

OPos to Bleeding Males –The SE working-group carried out a survey looking at Hospital/Trust practices. There was mention of sharing of best practice, with possible cross site visits,

and educational learning, between those who are doing well, and those who want to implement/improve their practice. It was agreed that this would be carried over to the **2023 workplan. ACTION.**

QS138 (now named QS138 Quality Insights)– AD provided an update. The project was now out to pilot with six hospitals involved. Two in the SE region, two in the North East & Yorkshire region, and two in London. This will test the end-to-end process for a hospital and user instructions. Once completed and with any amendments required, the plan is to launch the tool across England, Northern Ireland, and Wales early next year.

Messaging will be key, so we don't create confusion with the NCA Audit.

TH would it be possible to use the audit tools rather than NCA audit. AD explained that the local audit tool is continuing/live data base and will update with new data all the time. The NCA want all the data/statements audited at the same time.

Group Updates:

TP Network Group – meeting (14/12/22) – JR reported one of main discussions had related to Band 4 and transfusion associate practitioners – non-medical prescribers. They are allowed to administer IV medications, but there was increasing pressure for them to administer transfusions. It was important there was clarity on the prescribing courses plus a statement indicating risks - this was to be discussed with the NMC.

Oxford/Southampton TLM Group – KD reporting that the group discussed inspections and shared learning. Staffing pressures on some sites, and what can be done? There were no easy solutions, and this was a national problem. It takes 18 months to train a BMS from university to lone working.

Reversal of DOACs and Vitamin K Antagonists in Trauma Related Bleeding Report – FC reported that this was almost complete and reaching a conclusion. To be ready for Spring 2023.

NCA Audits (2022) - for information only

- i. Launched May – Upper GI Bleeds, report due Spring 2023
- ii. Launched June – PBM in Paediatrics pre-op report due Spring 2023
- iii. Sample Labelling – Transfusion Practitioners – report due early January

2023 - April - repeat of NICE QS138

- Autumn audit of bedside transfusion practice tbc

AOB

AD – the TPs had reported an increase in WBITs this year, following the introduction of electronic labelling. AD has written to SHOT to ask if they have any resources for best practice. KE - BSPS has gone live on four sites that have had major issues.

AD – asked if there was any mention of staffing levels in UK TLC standards, was there any supporting information for business cases. KD – reported that the new standards should be out in mid-January. The Standards will not help with the staffing issues but will help with how you put together a strategic ask for staffing and capacity planning.

The UK TLC survey results will come out next year.

HW advised members that there is a “special” NBTC meeting (January 19) looking at the structure of the RTC, NBTC and reporting lines within NHS England.

It was suggested that the workplan meeting might be a return to face-to-face meetings, subject to location. FM to do some initial research to find a suitable venue **ACTION**

Next Meeting: 2023 Dates

- Planning Meeting: **Tuesday 7 February** (face to face tbc)
- Dates for future meetings to be aligned with education events.