

# North East & Yorkshire RTC Meeting Minutes


**13:00 – 16:00 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022**

<b>Attendees</b>		
Abe Aweda	AA	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, North Lincs & Goole
Sharon Baker	SB	Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield
Aimi Baird	AB	Transfusion Practitioner, Newcastle
Helen Barber	HB	Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds
Anna Bartholomew	ABa	Transfusion Practitioner, Northumbria
Amanda Baxter	ABax	Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Children's
Helen Baxter	HB	Senior BMS, North Tees
Gillian Bell	GB	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Doncaster and Bassetlaw
Amanda Burns	AB	Chief BMS, Hull and East Yorkshire
Carolyn Carveth Marshal	CCM	Transfusion Practitioner, South Tees
Andrew Charlton	AC	Consultant Haematologist, Newcastle and NHSBT
Victoria Chong	VC	Senior BMS, Co Durham & Darlington
Laura Condren	LC	Transfusion Technical Lead, South of Tyne Clinical Pathology Services
Sasha Cook	SC	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT
Robin Coupe	RC	Customer Service Manager, NHSBT
Debbie Cox	DC	Transfusion Practitioner, North Tees & Hartlepool
Emma Crane	EC	BMS, York and Scarborough
Sarah Dawson	SD	Anaesthetic Specialty Trainee, Northern School of Anaesthesia
Stephanie Ferguson	SF	Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds
Jenny Fullthorpe	JF	Head Biomedical Scientist, York & Scarborough
Danny Gaskin	DG	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT
Jo Gilbert	JG	Senior BMS, Co Durham & Darlington
Alison Hirst	AH	Transfusion Practitioner, Airedale
Alex Hogan	AH	Laboratory Manager RCI Newcastle, NHSBT
Adil Iqbal	AI	Consultant Haematologist, Co Durham & Darlington
Catrina Ivel	CI	Transfusion Practitioner, York and Scarborough
Chris Izod	CI	Consultant Anaesthetist, Chair of HTC Gateshead
Marina Karakantza	MK	Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT
Cheryl Kempton	CK	Senior BMS, Northumbria
Sam Kershaw	SK	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Calderdale and Huddersfield
Rohit Kumar	RK	Consultant Neonatologist, South Tees
Michelle Lake	ML	Transfusion Practitioner, Calderdale & Huddersfield
Joanne Lawson	JL	Blood Sciences Departmental Manager, Co Durham & Darlington
Alison Muir	AM	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Newcastle
Janet Nicholson	JNi	Transfusion Practitioner, North Cumbria
Jill Parkinson	JP	Transfusion Practitioner, Bradford
Julie Pozorski	JPo	Transfusion Practitioner, Barnsley
Ric Procter	RP	<b>Deputy chair</b> , A&E Consultant and Chair of HTC, South Tees
Emma Richards	ER	Transfusion Practitioner, Doncaster & Bassetlaw
Janice Robertson	JR	<b>Minutes</b> , RTC Administrator, NHSBT
Jennifer Rock	JRo	Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds
Karen Simblet	KS	QA Manager, NHSBT Newcastle

Delia Smith	DS	Customer Service Manager, NHSBT
Faye Smith	FS	Transfusion Practitioner, Harrogate
Youssef Sorour	YS	<b>Chair</b> , Consultant Haematologist and chair of HTC, Doncaster and Bassetlaw
Robert Stirk	RS	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Rotherham
John Sutton	JS	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, North Cumbria
Mark Taplin	MT	Blood Transfusion Manager, Barnsley
Laith Tafesh	LT	Haematology Specialist Registrar, NHSBT
Brian Taylor	BT	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Sheffield Teaching
Jake Taylor	JTa	Anaesthetist in Intensive Care, Newcastle
Angeline Thiongo	AT	Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Teaching
Karen Ward	KW	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Northumbria
Sandra Watson	SW	Transfusion Practitioner, Co Durham & Darlington
Tracey Watson	TW	Head of RCI Barnsley, NHSBT
Abbie White	AW	Transfusion Practitioner, North Lincs & Goole
Rachel Wilkinson-Hall	RWH	Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Teaching
Sasha Wilson	SW	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT

<b>Apologies</b>		
Steve Burns	SB	QA Manager, NHSBT
David Bruce	DB	Head of RCI Newcastle, NHSBT
Rachael Denham	RD	Scientific Consultant, NHSBT
Khaled El-Ghariani	KEG	Consultant Haematologist, Chair of HTC, Sheffield Teaching
April Joslin	AJ	Transfusion Practitioner, Northumbria
Raheela Khalid	RK	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Nuffield Leeds
Judith Morgan	JM	Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia, Chair of HTC, Sheffield Children's
Mark Liversage	ML	Transfusion Practitioner, Barnsley
Linda Lowrey	LL	Transfusion Practitioner, Harrogate
Jamie Maddox	JD	Consultant Haematologist, South Tees
Chantal Morrell	CM	Quality Coordinator, Co Durham & Darlington
Sue Wardle	SWa	Patient Representative
Donna Wood	DW	Transfusion Practitioner, Calderdale & Huddersfield
Megan Wrightson	MW	Transfusion Practitioner, South Tees

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
	YS welcomed the group.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Education Section</b>
2.1	<b>Utilising technology to maximise access to blood transfusion education for healthcare professionals</b> Presented by Danny Gaskin
2.2	<b>Update from IHN-SHOT conference: Genetics / Personalised Transfusion</b> Presented by Jake Taylor
2.3	<b>Update from IHN-SHOT conference: Past, Present, Future</b> Presented by Janet Nicholson
2.4	<b>Review of National Guidelines / Research Papers</b>

	 Review of National Guidelines - Research
<b>3.</b>	Apologies noted. Minutes of previous meeting, 08.06.2022 confirmed <b>Action:</b> Post confirmed minutes onto JPAC website.
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Matters arising</b>
Closed	Minutes of previous meeting, 09.03.2022 onto JPAC website.
Closed	RTT looking at producing a regional standardised alert in way of a Transfusion bulletin / newsletter.
Closed	LIMS. RTT considering starting a working group to look at the issues across the region.
Closed	RTT considering a working group to look at 'Two sample rule' processes within the region.
Closed	Sunderland audit on the frequency of reporting to SHOT, not available to share with the group
Closed	No success in sourcing a trainee representative from the Yorkshire region.
Closed	Local audits Group are sharing recommendations / learning points.
c/fwd	Scanning of wristbands from other Trusts after patients have been transferred contributing to sample rejection. Contact Julie Staves to ask if there is a SOP for managing this issue that she is willing to share.
<b>4</b>	<b>Update from NBTC</b>
	<b>NBTC meeting 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022, key messages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMS empowerment, education &amp; discussion group               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very good feedback from those involved with real progress to improving transfusion care guided by BMS teams</li> <li>• Discussion on if HTC's manage to release their BMS to engage with this and how can we look to facilitate it within our units.</li> <li>• Staff time both clinical and non-clinical is tight, but with such positive feedback we should aim to be involved</li> </ul> </li> <li>• National platform for education events               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross over of RTCs delivering online teaching events. Developing a national list will help to avoid duplication.</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• A platform for hosting events needs to be considered by the NBTC to circumvent IT problems</li> <li>• Virtual education events are unlikely to go anytime soon</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cell Salvage activity               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies across the regions, but this should have a more formal register of who is currently providing it and look to support each other to develop the service</li> <li>• A NE&amp;Y group may need to be developed to help log what is happening and share ideas</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Action:** Add to RTT agenda as promoting this as a core PBM initiative is going to be important.

- SHOT resources
  - The SCRIPT group will be working on frameworks to help IT implementation and give guidance
  - It has been asked that the group work on a framework and “how to” for 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.
- Learnpro modules
  - The PBM team have been working on the replacement learnpro modules and these should be available during October.
- NCA
  - Upper GI bleed management is ongoing with data collection and should produce output March 2023
  - Anaemia in elective paedrs surgery data collection ongoing in selected units with output 2023
  - Blood Sample collection in the draft tool phase
  - Use of FFP/cryo/PCC/fib is in the preliminary stages
- Trials
  - SWIFT has ethics approval and may start to progress in October (MTC relevant only)
  - Dried plasma project is ongoing and still in the development phase
- PBM checklist
  - More so now with pre-alert stock levels continuing, using a PBM checklist could help show areas of conservation and good practice implementation
  - HTC to review what they managed to implement and if there are initiatives not implemented that need support from the RTC.
  - A single document with a PBM self-assessment tool may be available in 2023.
- Virtual meetings
  - Most regions 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.
  - Discussion on if there are benefits in hybrid meetings
- Transfusion 2024
  - There is now an NBTC summary of deliverables in relation to the Tx2024 document
  - Most trusts have progressed towards aspects of this, but focus may be on vein-to-vein systems
  - Work on dissemination of SHOT learning/CAS alerts. This links with plans to have a region wide transfusion bulletin



NHSBT Tx2024.pdf

- RTC chairs and NBTC minutes <https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/national-blood-transfusion-committee/business>

5.



















**Amber Alert**



Amber Alert Update  
.pdf

- **Action:** Complete brief survey to capture intelligence of what went well in Trusts to be circulated imminently.
- Vanesa (platform for entering data onto BSMS) has a new functionality to record platelet and frozen component stocks, available via <https://hospital.blood.co.uk/the-update/please-start-to-provide-your-daily-laboratory-stock-levels-for-platelets-ffp-and-cryoprecipitate-in-vanesa-now/>  
Guidance via BSMS September Newsletter  
<https://nhsbtbde.blob.core.windows.net/umbraco-assets-corp/27811/bsms-newsletter-sept-2022-v1-1.pdf>
- **Action:** Circulate presentation to group.

**6. Reports from Hospital Transfusion Teams**

<p><b>Airedale NHS Trust</b></p>  <p>Airedale.pdf</p>	<p><b>Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Barnsley.pdf</p>	<p><b>Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Bradford.pdf</p>
<p><b>Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Calderdale and Huddersfield .pdf</p>	<p><b>County Durham &amp; Darlington NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>CDDFT.pdf</p>	<p><b>Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Doncaster and Bassetlaw.pdf</p>
<p><b>Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Harrogate.pdf</p>	<p><b>Hull &amp; East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p>  <p>Hull &amp; East Yorkshire.pdf</p>	<p><b>Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p>  <p>Leeds Teaching.pdf</p>
<p><b>Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p>  <p>Mid Yorks.pdf</p>	<p><b>Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Newcastle.pdf</p>	<p><b>North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p>  <p>North Cumbria.pdf</p>
<p><b>Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Northern Lincolnshire and Goole.pdf</p>	<p><b>North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>North Tees.pdf</p>	<p><b>Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Northumbria.pdf</p>
<p><b>Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Sheffield Childrens.pdf</p>	<p><b>Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b></p>  <p>Sheffield Teaching.pdf</p>	<p><b>South of Tyne (Inc Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trusts)</b></p>  <p>South of Tyne.pdf</p>

**South Tees Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust**



South Tees.pdf

**The Rotherham NHS  
Foundation Trust**



Rotherham.pdf

**York & Scarborough  
Teaching Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust**



York &  
Scarborough.pdf

Key points / common themes from reports:

- Staffing continues to be a major issue
- Integration with MDT to assist in dealing with amber alert
- Inability to release staff for training
- Issues with patients being admitted to a hospital with an ID band from another hospital. PAS numbers are different at each hospital and if a sample is sent to the lab they will enter PAS number, which will bring up a different patient.
- FFP in major haemorrhage packs. Many Trust have removed FFP from the first pack due to high wastage. Communication with the clinical area is needed. Suggestion that packs contents should vary depending on the clinical area. There is a need to ensure that FFP is being used appropriately.
- Use of Blood Track TX in the community. Concerns on how it will work - WiFi / lack of wristbands / ID badges.
- Returning of sickle cell patients units to NHSBT, if patient does not attend for their transfusion. AC advised this issue is being actively investigated.
- Negotiations on delivery schedule due to issues with staffing overnight. RC advised there is scope to accommodate this, contact your customer service manager to discuss.
- Nursing associates setting up transfusions and agency staff competencies. ML advised that this had been discussed at the National TP meeting and the decision was to leave this to individual Trust policies.

**7. Budget**

- Expecting an underspend due to most activities continuing to be virtual.
- Funding available for educational events (not post graduate).

**8. Haemostasis and Thrombosis Matters**

- No update

**9. NHSBT Updates**

**9.1 RCI**



RCI update.pdf

- Newcastle RCI turnaround times are under 2.5 days (not included in graphs).






**9.2 PBM**



PBM update .pdf

**9.3 Customer Service**

- Customer satisfaction survey has now closed, thank you to those that have responded. The turnout was rather lower than it usually due to the amber alert.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for return of blood units to NHSBT. Whilst that is something that is being looked at, that should not be taken as an indication that it is something that will happen in future.</li> </ul>
9.4	<p><b>Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newcastle centre awaiting a date for the MHRA inspection.</li> <li>Barnsley centre preparing for a Human Tissue Authority (HTA) inspection.</li> </ul>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Education and Training</b>
10.1	 <p>RTC Education Update .pdf</p>
10.2	<p>Non-Medical Authorisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluations from session in June and September 18 responses out of the 30 attendees. The overall picture is either excellent or good, with the exception of the 'past experience' slot as the speakers were unable to attend on both occasions due to clinical workload.</li> <li>Next event 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 2023 events - Thursday 16th March, Wednesday 21st June, Wednesday 20th September, Thursday 7th December Maximum numbers increased to 30 as courses are all currently virtual. Places still available for all dates.</li> </ul>
10.3	<p>National TP events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual event proposed for 17th and 18th of May 2023. (3 to 4 hours per day). Including patient blood management, demand planning, wastage, how patient blood management works internationally and Transfusion 2024.</li> </ul>
10.4	<p>Scientific and Technical Training</p>  <p>SciClinTraining-Update November 2022.pdf</p>
	<p><b>Future Education Events</b> Canvassing for topics, please forward any suggestions to JR. Details of virtual education programme available via <a href="https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/regional-transfusion-committees/virtual-education-sessions">https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/regional-transfusion-committees/virtual-education-sessions</a></p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Audits / Standards / Studies</b>
11.1	<p><b>National Comparative Audits</b></p>  <p>National Comparative Audits.p</p>
11.2	<p><b>Regional Surveys</b></p> <p>Blood Use in Obstetrics survey</p>   <p>Summary of Obstetric Blood Use.p      Blood us in obstetrics survey .pdf</p>

<b>12.</b>	<b>Reports from RTC groups</b>
12.1	<p>Transfusion Practitioners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First face to face meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September at Catterick Racecourse. Sponsored by Pharmacosmos. The meeting was well attended and was a great opportunity to get to know the extended team.</li> </ul> <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of nursing associates and agency nurses in transfusion. This was taken to the national TP group who advised that it is up to local organisations to decide what they do.</li> <li>• Introduction of the SharePoint group which will assist with sharing of documents and ideas.</li> <li>• Group currently meeting on a weekly basis to discuss ongoing blood stock alerts, sharing ideas of good practice and actions taken. There is also a WhatsApp Group to share questions and issues promptly and this continues to grow.</li> </ul>
12.2	<p>Centre Users Groups</p> <p><b>Barnsley</b> – Teams meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Key points: Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation from Laura Eastwood, The Use of Virtual Reality in Transfusion Laboratory Training.</li> <li>• Presentation from Alex Dwayre, Hospital Services Barnsley - A Day in the Life</li> <li>• Presentation from Rachel Perkins, Reducing O D Negative Wastage: The Rotherham Experience</li> <li>• Hospital updates involved discussions for discussion on staffing, capacity planning for senior staff, succession planning staff and training burden. Labs are under resourced leaving no time for major projects although there is good work going on within the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Newcastle</b> - First face to face meeting since pre-pandemic held 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting sponsored by Biolog-ID who gave a presentation on their RFID solutions.</li> <li>• Presentation from Jill Caulfield on behalf of BSMS, looking at ‘behind the scenes’ during the pre-amber alert, which was very timely as we moved into amber shortly afterwards. This provoked good discussions on stock management and clinical engagement.</li> <li>• Presentation from Andy Charlton on an overview of trial data looking at liberal versus restrictive transfusion.</li> <li>• Hospital updates involved discussions on data cleansing/migration of LIMS data, competency re-assessment and how we manage this moving forward. Lots of end-to-end transfusion projects going on in the region and sharing experiences within the group was valuable (as well as linking into the regional group).</li> <li>• Next meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023</li> </ul>
12.3	<p>NBTC Laboratory Managers Group</p> <p>Face to face meeting in September Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing is the major concern in all regions</li> <li>• IT is also a concern, mainly because are a lot of IT projects ongoing with changes and implementation in new LIMS systems. The new IT guidelines are due by the end of 2022 and should be published in Transfusion Medicine.</li> <li>• Louise Sherliker and Gary Cavanagh from NHSBT, updated on Transfusion 2024 and items that NHSBT are working on, including RCI projects of electronic requesting and reporting, remote interpretation of antibody panels to support</li> </ul>



	<p>hospital blood banks. BSMS VMI is being looked at to improve and roll out to assist hospital blood banks manage their stocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Near miss event which involved an organ transplant.</li> <li>• Update from the MHRA representative. No significant changes in the number or types of SABRE reports. Approx. 30 sites have been selected for MHRA inspection this year.</li> <li>• Discuss the on the amber alert. Suggestion to include red cell stock levels in each hospital and wastage figures as standing item agenda for future RTC meeting. <b>Action:</b> request representative from BSMS attend next meeting to advise what reports could be produced.</li> </ul>
12.4	<p>Trauma Network update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a growing network of the MTC discussing MHP's and sharing details. They link with the trauma network in North East and Yorkshire in terms of general service delivery. There is a London and SE trauma and haematology group and a similar group in the Midlands that have been discussing usage, waste and best practice. There is about 50% use out of MHP activations and probably about 10% waste.</li> </ul>
12.5	<p>End to end transfusion IT group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group started relatively recently supported by ML and SK Currently 31 people from a range of backgrounds have joined the group.</li> <li>• First meeting was held on the 8th of September to ascertain what people wanted from the group and where they were in the process.</li> <li>• Agenda's to be themed to allow members to concentrate on items that were relevant to them, but also to include troubleshooting and sharing of ideas within the group.</li> <li>• Second meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Group agreed to conduct a survey to get some IT profiling and an idea of where people are.</li> </ul>
13.	<b>A.O.B.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
14.	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06 March 2023</li> </ul>

#### RTC – Action list

Item No	Action	By Whom
3	Post confirmed minutes of June meeting onto JPAC website.	JR
3.1	Scanning of wristbands from other Trusts after patients have been transferred contributing to sample rejection. Contact Julie Staves to ask if there is a SOP for managing this issue that she is willing to share.	Rachel Allan
4	Add 'Cell Salvage activity' to RTT agenda, to try to develop a more formal register of who is currently providing it and look to support each other to develop the service.	JR
5	Complete brief survey to capture intelligence of what went well in Trusts during amber alert. The survey is to be circulated imminently from PBM team.	All

5	Circulate Amber Alert presentation to the group	JR
12.3	Request representative from BSMS attend next meeting to advise what reports could be produced. Suggestion to include red cell stock levels in each hospital and wastage figures.	SW