

## South East Regional Transfusion Team Meeting

Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 7 February 2023

| MINUTES   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Present:</b><br>Howard Wakeling (HW) Chair<br>Fatts Chowdhury (FC)<br>Kim East (KM)<br>Jonathan Ricks (JR)<br>Emily White (EW)<br>Liz Tatam (LT)   | Anwen Davies (AD)<br>Lisa March (LM)<br>Susan Mitchell (SM)<br>Ruth O'Donnell (RO'D)<br>Alexandra (Ali) Lloyd (AL)<br>Frances Moll (FM) Minutes |
| <b>Apologies:</b><br>Kerry Dowling<br>Simon Stanworth   | Zoe Sammut<br>Nelson Johnson  |
| <b>Welcome &amp; Apologies</b><br>Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.<br>Alexandra Lloyd was introduced, she is the CSM, based in Manchester. Ali is supporting the South East, until a new CSM is appointed.   |   |
| <b>Minutes of meeting held on 14 December 2022</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Action points or matters arising – the minutes were approved, and action points completed. There were no matters arising</li></ul>   |   |
| <b>RTC Work Plan 2023</b> <p><b>OPos in Bleeding Males*</b>. Members discussed the need to take this working group forward to the 2023 work plan. Following the repeat survey carried out within the region in 2022, three respondents were identified as not having a policy in place. However, it was agreed many factors influenced decision making at particular sites, and changes might have little impact. It was discussed that it may be beneficial to have a one-to-one approach with sites who do not have a policy in place, to understand the reasons, and whether any support was required in the first instance. Suggestions included sharing of policies, site visits or education sessions. It was suggested another avenue for exploring could be to include looking at adherence to practice for those sites who have a policy in place. One measure to consider could be audit or the site % O D neg stockholding target, although this was acknowledged to be a less reliable indicator where sites had reduced overall stockholding, especially at smaller sites.<br/>*adult patients assigned male at birth<br/><b>ACTION</b> working group to remain on the workplan, for possible meeting in March.</p> <p><b>QS138 Quality Insights Tool</b> – A successful pilot was carried out in December involving six hospital sites in three RTC regions, thanks given to LT and TH for taking part. It is hoped to launch in March, with auditing in April and October. (Note: The April audit coincides with the NCA QS138 audit. The same data can be used for the first round).<br/><b>ACTION:</b> QS138 Insights Tool to remain on the workplan.</p> <p><b>RTC Education/ Business meeting</b><br/>It was suggested to follow similar format to the RTC education/business meeting held in 2022 – an hour and half for presentations and an hour and half for a business meeting – a virtual meeting. Suggested topics for 2023 included:<br/><b>Amber Alert</b> lessons learned – TP / TLM perspectives, and NHSBT perspective, followed by an RTC Business meeting. Possible April/May date tbc, subject to industrial action. It was suggested to approach Oxford for the TLM perspective. KE offered to provide a TP perspective.</p> |   |

**ACTION:** add to workplan

**ACTION:** AD to source NHSBT speaker and contact Oxford

**Stockholding** – It was discussed that regular Smarter Inventory Management courses are provided by the Blood Stocks Management Scheme which include stockholding, stock sharing and wastage. There is an underrepresentation in attendance on these courses from the South East, these should be promoted more widely. Stock issue and wastage data to continue to be included on RTC business meeting agendas.

**ACTION:** Share BSMS course booking information with laboratory colleagues

<https://www.bloodstocks.co.uk/resources/education-events/>

**Transfusion 2024 –**

Traceability and Vein to Vein HW said this was something that needed more information - there was little support with funding.

EW offered to share the experience and method used at IOW to get funding for single unit traceability.

AD said London had carried out an IT profiling survey to capture which vein-to-vein systems sites were using and their progress to act as a reference source to link with other regional members to share practice and solutions.

AD also outlined a working group in the North East who have an End-to-End transfusion working group providing drop-in sessions for TPs and TLMs. It was agreed this might be an opportunity to learn.

**ACTION:** It was agreed we need to establish a fuller picture for the region on progress with vein-to-vein systems– AD would find out more from her colleague in the NE. LM offered to follow this up

**BMS Study Day** – A one day virtual session has been arranged for 25 April 2023. The session will be led by KD with support from Red Cell Immunohaematology colleagues and NHSBT Customer Service Managers. Registration has now closed.

**Joint TP/TLM meeting** – It was agreed that this item would remain on the workplan, to be held in September (date to be confirmed)

**Transfusion Bites** Education event– It was agreed that this popular event should continue, with November being the most likely timing, to avoid the annual British Blood Transfusion Society Conference (format tbc).

**ACTION:** to be added to work plan

The group discussed virtual versus face-to-face meetings for this event. There were benefits to both. Venues suggested other than hotels were racecourses, Football Clubs. AL had managed a couple of face-to-face meetings recently, and they have proved more collaborative, but everyone recognised the commitment to time away from work. **ACTION:** FM to research different venues and costs for a face-to-face meeting.

**Massive Haemorrhage Packs** – this was raised at the TP/TLM meeting, including a discussion on having different protocols for different specialities. The majority felt the process and protocols needed to be kept simple, to not over complicate and confuse staff.

HW asked if some Trusts were moving toward fibrinogen instead of FFP for obstetrics? KE said Reading (part of BPS) were trialling FFP.

**ACTION** LM offered to find out what was happening across the region, were there different protocols for different specialities, what are they; plus capturing who was trialling what, why, and any outcomes.

**NCA Audits /Reports/ Future audits** – these would be reflected on the workplan for reference and where appropriate report presentations.

**ACTION:** add to workplan

**Terms of Reference**

These were agreed and will be reviewed in September 2024.

**ACTION** The updated Terms of Reference will be added to the new South East RTC Business page on a new JPAC RTC microsite which is due to be launched in April.

**Membership** – HW would approach the members who had not attended regularly to ask if they still wish to be a member, what are the barriers for their lack of attendance etc. **ACTION** Members were invited to consider colleagues who might like to join the RTT. **ACTION** Please put forward their names/suggestions to HW, cc'd to FM

**Annual Summary – Contributions**

Following an email sent to TPs and TLMs from the region requesting contributions for the 2022 Annual Summary, responses had only been received from RO'D and JR. It was discussed that further content was required.

LT agreed to provide a short generic paragraph on the introduction of transfusion into Electronic Patient Record (EPR) systems– to be circulated for any additions – then submitted for the annual summary. **ACTION**

SM agreed to provide a short paragraph showing how TLMs' managed through the Amber Alert, to liaise with EW. **ACTION**

LM suggested making reference to the new national NHSBT Blood Transfusion Training e-learning modules – these were excellent, so much better. SM agreed they were very user-friendly, well laid out and not repetitive.

AL suggested a paragraph on Richard Whitmore's retirement and outline the interim CSM situation. **ACTION**

**Any Other Business**

AD updated members on the Stocks situation. Red Cell Stocks have stabilized, but there is still a pre-Amber alert for both red cells and for platelets. The platelet situation is very fragile. There is more information on the Hospital and Sciences Website, [Blood Stocks page](#) – scroll down for the NHSBT Guidance.

Action for the Laboratories, there has been a request to make sure that the new Bar Codes are uploaded on the system in the event that they are required, see January 2023 ['The Update'](#)

Please note the Webinar: **Q&A session on Contingency Reduced-Dose Apheresis Platelets** held on **Friday February 10** is now available on the PBM [YouTube Channel](#)

**Next Meeting and future Dates:** To be circulated.