

South East Regional Transfusion Team

Wednesday 4 October 2023

Via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Present	
Kerry Dowling (KD) Deputy Chair	Mike Murphy (MM)
Emma O'Donovan (EO'D)	Lisa March (LM)
Susan Mitchell (SM)	Emily White (EW)
Elizabeth Tatam (ET)	Nelson Johnson (NJ)
Zoe Sammut (ZS)	Jonathan Ricks (JR)
Ruth O'Donnell (RO'D)	Anwen Davies (AD)
Shabana Tufail (ST)	Danny Bolton (DB)
Carol Stenning (CS)	Howard Wakeling (HW),
Frances Moll (FM)	Kim East (KE)

Apologies	
Tanya Hawkins	Simon Stanworth

Welcome and Apologies

KD welcomed everyone to the meeting, with particular thanks to Mike Murphy who has kindly agreed to step in should Simon Stanworth be unavailable.

KD also took the opportunity to put on record the RTTs thanks to Fatts Chowdhury for her support to the region over the past seven years. Fatts' role was changing, and she will no longer be the NHSBT Consultant for the South East.

Tanya Hawkins sent her apologies. Howard Wakeling sent his apologies but if circumstances allowed, he would join.

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 7 July 2023

These were agreed as a true record. To be added to the JPAC website. **ACTION**

Outstanding Action point:

EW to share the business case reference funding for single unit traceability/vein to vein systems.

ACTION Please send to KD/ FM

Other actions covered within the agenda.

NBTC update: Monday 27 September 2023

KD attended the NBTC RTC Chairs meeting (deputising for HW).

There are a number of significant changes to be introduced in the next couple of years - NBTC Version 2. There is a symposium planned for June 2024 to further discuss the structure and reporting lines, engaging more closely with NHS Management. MM said the idea would be more engagement and feedback of data and practice from the RTCs and HTC's for greater support and potentially help through regional funding.

NBTC were working on terms of reference, infrastructure funding; they have already secured PAs for RTC Consultant Chairs.

Education and virtual learning were discussed - Face to face meetings were still a challenge, (costs, attendance, geography), but it was agreed there should be at least one face to face meeting each year. Starting in April 2024, there is to be a planned NBTC education programme, with agreed topics. This will provide seven regional events per year, with a more centralized approach, but does not prevent each region from running extra events.

There was a presentation from Blood Transfusion Research Unit (BTRU), future projects would be something to consider for the 2024 Workplan.

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Budget 2024

At present the NBTC and RTC overall budgets are under spent. Going forward the Budget will be managed by the NBTC Secretary. MM said with increased costs for events, it was important to consider asking for additional funding if required.

Venues for future events in the SE were briefly discussed, AD & FM had been to visit Southampton Football Club as a possible venue with good transport links; others suggested Universities, lecture theatres or teaching spaces within hospitals. It was agreed one event/year within the region should be face to face. KE suggested Guildford University – perhaps the most central location for the SE.

Transfusion Bites – Thursday 2 November

The Key Speakers were now confirmed – Shruthi Nuryan – SHOT, and Malcolm Robinson – founder of Harvey's Gang; four 'Transfusion Bite' presentations put forward were considered and it was agreed provided a good mix of Laboratory and Clinical cases. Members agreed a change to the programme with slightly longer "bites". **ACTION** - FM to confirm with the volunteers and check they are happy to provide a 15-minute presentation before finalising and distributing the programme to the RTC.

Workplan 2023

This has been updated and reflects the final months of this year.
The NCA Bedside Labelling audit has been moved to March 2024.

- **Major Haemorrhage Packs**

LM provided the results of the survey undertaken across the SE Hospitals. The results give an overview of what is in place across the region: the major haemorrhage processes, and protocols, what's in place, and where we can reach out if anyone wants to make changes, or examples to consider for improvement.

LM thanked the 15 hospitals that completed the survey.

Survey results attached.



MHP Packs SE
Survey.pdf

One of the questions – If your trust has not implemented the use of O positive for male patients, would you like support – three respondents said yes.

ACTION if anyone is happy to share their experience, please contact LM; or if you want support, please contact LM.

The survey also asked about any trials taking place, three hospitals were running trials – two were SWIFT trial; with one waiting for confirmation of a TEG or ROTEM trial.

Feedback on the SWIFT trials would be helpful at a future meeting. **ACTION**

The final question asked if anyone was considering making changes to their MHP process in the near future? Nine were satisfied, with six wanting to make changes.

LM hoped the survey results might be useful, and anyone wanting to make changes could contact LM.

ACTION: LM/FM to contact the three hospitals wanting support – to find out what help they require.

KD asked for the survey to be circulated to the RTC. **ACTION** FM (covering note from LM)

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MM suggested that the challenges with MHP was often within the smaller hospitals, and it was important for them to run scenarios, to practice for an unusual event. The practices often highlight some key issues, and help iron out any obvious constraints with blood delivery etc.

KE said Frimley and Wexham have an annual scenario practice, which includes the satellite sites.

KD suggested a follow up questions when the survey is circulated to find out if hospitals run regular scenarios? **ACTION** LM/FM

The question was raised: Should there be a shared scenario of a Major Haemorrhage event that could be used by all hospital.

KD suggested this should be something to consider – a piece of work linked to MHPs, drills and education – a topic for a future Transfusion Bites.

AD mentioned a number of education events, that might meet this remit. Further information available at: <https://nationalbloodtransfusion.co.uk/education>

- 27th November - Major Haemorrhage: Medical, Obstetric and Trauma (NE & Yorkshire RTC)
- 7th Feb - Trauma cases (London and SE Haem & Trauma group). Registration opening in November
- 15th May - Are you prepared for a Major Incident? (National Emergency planning working group)

It was suggested that LM presents the survey at the next TP Meeting **ACTION**

2024 Workplan

Two suggestions had been put forward for the 2024 workplan:

1. A regional audit on transfusion reaction knowledge.
ST agreed this was a good topic and would be supported by NBTC customer services' documents and information.
KD suggested the outcome could be regional guidance and tips; a reference document for junior staff and others, both scientific and clinical.
2. Working group to look and good practice, ideas for recruitment, training and retention. KD suggested workshops to bring together ideas, good resources, and to learn from each other. MM agreed with a possibility of a survey and round-table discussions.

KD added a third topic:

3. QS138 – How could we improve/get better? The suggestion was to focus on one aspect. AD recommended waiting for a few cycles of regional data, and then look at the areas where improvements are required.

Other items for the workplan to consider include:

Transfusion Bites – likely to be face to face; TP/TLM joint meeting; BMS study day;

After April the NBTC Education plans might be in place, with topics agreed – so this could be included.

It was agreed KD, SS, & HW should meet to discuss the 2024 workplan. **ACTION** date to be agreed. Plus a date in the new year for the full RTT to meet to discuss the proposals.

NHSBT Update

- **PBM Update:**



PBM update for RTT
October 2023 .pdf

AD provided an update on Blood Stocks; Green for red cells and platelets (with the exception of AD negative platelets still pre-amber). Some fragility noted in B D negative and O D negative red cell levels, currently stocks below 6 days for these groups. The overall message from NHSBT is to

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continue to transfuse patients appropriately using PBM guidance, to maintain stock reductions where possible, and consider the BSMS scheme, stock holding levels, and continue to accept suitable platelet substitutions.

AD highlighted the BSMS publications (Links on the attached presentation); plus the education sessions they offer – dates for 2024 are now available.

Patient Information leaflets are available with a number updated this year – there's also a poster with a QR Code to take you to the relevant Hospitals and Science website page. AD also highlighted the patient checklist to be found on [the JPAC site](#).

Elearning is now available for non-NHS staff, as well as NHS, with three new SHOT modules on insights for safer transfusion, human factors, and specific requirements.

BMSEGD sessions continue on the last Wednesday of every month - this month RCI case studies - presented by Sarah Lewis and Nikki Wilkes.

The Genotyping programme webinar has been rescheduled for 25 October.

The NCA Bedside Audit has been delayed until March 2024, and there are three different NCA reports due out in the coming months: Paediatric anaemia, Upper GI Bleeding and NICE QS138.

AD asked if anyone would share with colleagues the promotional information – screen savers/posters – for the new facilities now available at Reading Plasma Centre. MM said Oxford would be happy to take the information. **ACTION**

- **CSM Update**

DB thanked everyone for completing the customer survey (which closed on Sunday), there had a good response this year – it is very helpful particularly for the new CSMs.

The Tooting transport review is ongoing.

CS informed the group that the Genotyping programme once released will be free for patients until March 2024, with potentially a cost thereafter.

The Southampton emergency hub is still closed, but more information will be available very soon.

The CSMs will be managing the Southampton update pages on the webpage

<https://hospital.blood.co.uk/customer-service/southampton-centre/>. Everyone is working really hard to resolve the situation.

ST reminded the group that the Oxford/Southampton TLM meeting was taking place on 17 October in Oxford.

Regional 6-monthly audit of QS138:

AD gave an update – 68 Hospitals had signed up to QS138 Quality Insights to date with registrations from all of the RTC regions in England. The audit tool was launched in Wales in August. 21 hospitals from the South East have signed up AD will get in touch with the two remaining SE Trusts yet to register. **ACTION**. The next cycle is underway, auditing cases from Quarter 2 of this financial year (July to September) with the **deadline for data submission – 3 November 2023. ACTION**

Group Updates:

- TLM (Oxford/ Southampton) meeting is to take place on 17 October.
- TADG (London & South East) had taken place on 21 September. DB reported it had been a short meeting, with many London hospital managers being involved in a current IT upgrade.
- London & South East Trauma and Haematology Group JR reported the meeting focussed on emergency preparedness, resilience, and response. The importance of capacity planning, plus the importance of communication and where the laboratories appear on the emergency Major Incident (MI) contact list. AD added that where some hospitals/Trust had merged, it was key that the positioning of Transfusion on contact lists was checked. It

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was something to take to the National TP group (JR) and the TLMs national meeting (KD) to make everyone aware. **ACTION**

It was suggested this should be considered for the workplan for the coming year – skills and drills for MHP/MI. **ACTION** add to draft workplan 2024

NCA Audits – for information

- Bedside audit is now scheduled for March 2024

AOB:

- **BSMS Component Reports** – from November these monthly reports will come directly from BSMS, as they currently do for the TLMs. They are also available already via VANESA for those who have access.
- **Annual Summary Report** - Please start thinking about copy for celebrating success achievements for this annual report. **ACTION**

Date of Next Meeting: tba