

London Regional Transfusion Team

Teams Meeting

Tuesday 16 April 2024

Minutes

Present:	
Philip Kelly (PK) Chair	Consultant Physician, Kings College Hospital
Jeyakumar Visuwanathan (VJ)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Harefield Hospital
James Davies (JD)	Transfusion Practitioner, King's College Hospital
Emily Carpenter (EC)	Transfusion Practitioner, King's College Hospital
Catherine Booth (CB)	Consultant Haematologist, Barts Health & NHSBT
Charlene Furtado (CF)	Transfusion Practitioner, Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital
Dipika Solanki (DS)	Transfusion Practitioner, Imperial College NHS Trust
Katharine Maynard (KM)	Croydon Health Services NHS Trust
Ursula Wood (UW)	Transfusion Practitioner, Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Trust
Pascal Winter (PW)	Transfusion Practitioner, Barking, Havering, and Redbridge University Hospital
Selma Turkovic (ST)	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT
Danny Bolton (DB)	Customer Services Manager, NHSBT
Frances Moll (FM)	SE RTC Administrator (Minutes)

Apologies:	
Tracy Johnston, PBMP NHSBT	Ciara Donohue, Consultant Anaesthetist, Royal Free
Zahra Khan, CSM NHSBT	Angela Pumphrey, London RTC Administrator

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Apologies

PK welcomed everyone to the meeting, members introduced themselves. Apologies had been received from Angela Pumphrey, Tracy Johnston, Zahra Khan, and Ciara Donohue. ST informed members that FM was covering the meeting in Angela Pumphrey's absence. RTC Administrators would be covering various meetings for the foreseeable future.

2. Minutes & Actions from meeting held on 25 January 2024

The Minutes would be circulated as soon as possible. No actions had been captured on the workplan.

3. Laboratory Manager Update – VJ

- The next TADG (London and South East) meeting is on 3 May and is a face-to-face meeting.
- Concerns continue to be expressed about recruitment of senior BMS/Lab Managers, and the increased sizes of the Pathology Networks.
- This was not just a regional matter, but a national concern.
- Anxiety has increased because of the financial pressures.

4. Transfusion Practitioners (TP) Update – DS / JD

The TPs were now holding 2-weekly catch-up calls.

- The Patient Safety Alert ref: TACO was discussed and how best to action some of the points raised.
- A face-to-face meeting was held in March. Tracy Johnston gave a presentation on the O Pos Survey with a 30% increase in those taking part.

- London WBIT working group – useful data being extracted from the London RTC WBIT reporting tool. Eight London hospitals have reported data so far. All hospitals were encouraged to report into this.
- A number of Hospitals have started to adopt PSIRF/SEIPS methodologies, and where TPs have attended their Trust's PSIRF training they have found it beneficial.
- One hospital reported issues with QS138 audits – Hospital governance had instructed that any patient data captured for audit must be checked against list of patients that have opted out of data collection, even though data submitted is anonymised! PK said he would contact the relevant person to check the interpretation of the audit. CB also offered to provide support, if required. **ACTION PK/CB**
- The next TP meeting is being held on 11 June at Barts. Sponsored by Haemonetics. Two more meetings are planned towards the end of the year.

5. London Platelet Action Group (LoPAG) Update – UW

- The next meeting is being held on 23 April. Other regions have been invited to this meeting – to date 30 have registered.
- A newsletter is ready for circulation.
- Later in the summer there are plans for an Education Event.

6. RTC Work plan

London Transfusion Collaborative (LTC) Update - CB

Train the Trainer event is being held at the Clermont Victoria Hotel on 4 July.

- The morning session, run by a training company, is primarily targeted at Transfusion Practitioners. The morning session was restricted to 20 attendees, and places allocated on a first come first served, with a waiting list. There would be some preparation for delegates to do ahead of the event.
- The afternoon session includes presentations by Ruth Evans – PowerPoint tips, and Jo McCulloch – simulations.
- CB asked for support for a Flyer to be produced and promotion via the London TP Group. **ACTION ST/ TP Group**
- ST provided the costs for the event which included £1350 + VAT for the Training Company; and £4,000 (including VAT) for the venue and facilities (including lunch). Members agreed to this expenditure.
- Feedback from this event will be invaluable, for possible financial support nationally.

Haematology and Trauma Group - ST

- Held an event on 7 February – evaluation to follow.
- The next meeting is being held on 24 April.
- A recent group event had not been widely promoted, and this was something the group was addressing to ensure education days had the widest possible circulation.

LoPAG – covered in item 5. above

London X Account (Previously Twitter)

- There has been a slight drop in followers since the change in name.
- Information will continue to be posted for Education events etc.

Shared Care Working Group (SCWG) update – KM

- The regional group was started at the end of 2022 as a working group from the TP group. The group met several times, and a member developed an editable shared care pdf.

- A survey was developed and nationally circulated with excellent response, which reviewed challenges and issues with shared care.
- A meeting was arranged with representation from those who expressed an interest in the survey. Action from this meeting was that there would be benefit in developing this group into a national group with support from NBTC. This is now happening.
- There has now been agreement from the NBTC that the group can be badged as a national group jointly affiliated with the TLM working group and the National TP group. It was agreed this was a positive move.
- We have asked for representation of TPs and lab managers from all regions, SHOT, RCI, Sp-ICE and the PBM team as well as clinical representation.
- A meeting is planned for next week where membership will be reviewed, and next steps agreed.

WBIT Care Working Group – Update covered in item 4.

CB asked how the group was planning to present their findings. Had they considered conferences, journals etc.

DS agreed this was a good idea, a summary of all the work would be valuable, and would be useful to share more widely.

7. Customer Services Manager Update – DB

DB highlighted the following from his presentation:

- Stocks are improving – some still vulnerable but improved since bank holiday weekend.
- Service Review Meetings are taking place between CSMs and TLMs.
- The Blood Component price list is not yet available.
- Blood Courier has been changed - Fed Ex to Kuehne – hopefully, no disruption to services.
- Electronic Despatch Note (EDN) – this is happening later this year.
- Pack defects – please complete the forms (found online), but also pictures, so the manufacturer can see if there are any common problems. It was suggested this should be mentioned at TADG. **ACTION DB**
- Irradiation Labels – currently use both gamma and x-ray to irradiate components. At Colindale from April '24, extending the use of x-ray. No impact on component quality.
- During 2024 supplier of irradiation indicator labels will revert from RadTag to RadSure. Please let your teams know.



London RTT.CSM
Update.16.04.24 (Bolt)

8. RTC Education Event – Plasma & Platelets

The topic was one of the options given by NBTC.

Wednesday 27 November was agreed as the best date for this event, which would be held on Teams and is open to anyone involved within the Transfusion/Clinical groups – Doctors, Nurses, TPs, BMS, etc. from across all regions.

Suggested presentations:

- Is there any scope for NHSBT to defer the testing on their plasma to find out if it is suitable to give five-day plasma to patients outside the trauma setting, in the way that Octapharma has done in their studies. ST would see if they could explore this suggestion. She could talk to someone from manufacturing and research to see if they would be willing to present.

ACTION ST

- KM suggested people might be interested in DIC (Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathy), include TEG, and interpreting graphs. She would be willing to present. but suggested a representative from Wales/Cardiff to present on their Trial (TEG and Obstetric Haemorrhage) that was later rolled out across Wales – KM would provide a contact.

ACTION KM

- JD offered a review/audit following changes from using AB Plasma in code Reds, to using A Plasma. There should be some available data by November – **to be considered. JD**
- LoPAG/PAG could consider making a presentation, but already holding an education event in the summer! **To be considered. UW**
- Another possible presentation - ITP?
- ST to talk to CB about topics and speakers and everyone was invited to consider presentations/presenters ahead of the next RTT meeting. It was agreed at least three presentations would be required. **ACTION ST / All**

9. **Junior Doctors' Training** – no update

10. **Any other Business**

DS informed the group that both she and Emily Carpenter had volunteered to join Transformation 2024, previously Transfusion 2024, to sit on two work streams – digital transformation and workforce planning. They would feedback to the group on any further details. KM suggested that digital could link with the Shared Care working group.

It was noted that the Emergency Planning Working Group Education Event clashed with the TP 2024 event. ST asked if members could let the PBMPs know about dates etc to avoid clashes where possible – there is an NBTC Calendar. **ACTION All**

Date of Next Meeting – 4 July 2024

- (Plans to be put in place to hold an RTT after the face-to-face Education event – Training the Trainer)