

South West Patient Blood Management Group Minutes

Tuesday 23 January 2024

Via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Elmarie Cairns, Chair (EC), Oliver Pietroni (OP), Donna Davis (DD), Sophie Scutt (SS), Annette Bayon (AB), Michelle Davey (MD), Alison Robinson (AR), Issie Gardner (IG), Katharine Sprigge (KS), Vikki Chandler-Vizard (VCV), Jennifer Davies (JS), Stuart Lord (SL), Caroline Cheeseman, (CC), Joe Tyrrell (JT), Carl Lewis (CL), Lucy Fallon (LF), Sam Timmins (ST), Carol Stenning (CS), Jackie McMahon (JM)

EC opened the meeting. There were no Declarations of Any Other Business.

1. Summary of Previous Meeting, 26.09.23 (EC)

- The first F2F meeting for a while which facilitated lots of discussion and networking.
- EC presented a case review on not being able to access a blood fridge during a major haemorrhage.
- Presentations were given on Maternal Anaemia and Using EPO in Pre-operative Anaemia.
- Colleagues were requested to share business cases, MSBOS examples, PILs, etc via the SharePoint site but nothing has been uploaded to date. EC emphasised that it is useful for members to have access to these resources, and that EC and JM are happy to upload them to SharePoint for members that are happy to share.
- The future direction of the cell salvage data was discussed.
- Suggestions for future topics included POCT, anaemia and shared experiences of business case writing for posts/equipment.
- People are keen to continue with an annual F2F meeting.

The slides and meeting notes are available on the SWPBMG SharePoint site.

2. Terms of Reference (EC)

The group hasn't had a formal Terms of Reference and EC circulated a draft for comment prior to the meeting. These will need RTC Chair approval before ratification.

There was a useful discussion around the definition of quoracy, especially as attendance at the meetings can fluctuate quite significantly. Suggestions included requiring a percentage of trusts to attend rather than a set number of attendees or, as the group is largely educational, that meetings only need to be quorate if decisions are being made. ST mentioned that the SW TPs also use their group email for some decision-making.

There was a suggestion to make the wording less restrictive around the number of meetings and to replace the reference to 'at least one to be informal' to 'subsequent meetings to be held as necessary, which can be formal or informal'. EC thanked everyone for their input and is happy to receive any further feedback via email. The amended version will then be re-circulated to the group for comment and a copy sent to the RTC chair for his comments.

3. RTC & PBM Update (ST)

ST's RTC/PBM update included:

- A summary of progress with the regional objective to improve maternal anaemia which would involve a shift away from historical definitions of anaemia in pregnancy and screening and investigating patients at a higher Hb level to catch iron deficiency before it becomes iron deficiency anaemia.
- Mini major haemorrhage survey planned by the TPs which will also gauge O+ policy compliance.
- Continue to improve use of TXA but not yet sure how to move forward or specifics to make it useful and actionable.
- Investigating feasibility of regional NMA course.
- The Transfusion Survey is being held over until the summer and will include a link to the QS138 Quality Improvement Audit Tool. We just need to decide if this will replace the PBM section or if we still need to include some of the existing questions. Hospitals will need be registered to access the Audit Tool. ST agreed to query if it is possible to have more than one registered user but thought it unlikely from a governance perspective. There was a query about the data being uploaded to Model Hospital and SL thought it was intended to feed in.
- Next SW event as part of national education programme is Hazards of Transfusion. Content being confirmed but will include TACO considerations in renal and heart failure patients. Date confirmed for 11.06.24.
- An update on the NBTC realignment work and the SW being a pilot region for forging closer links with the ICBs.
- A copy of the minutes and presentations from the November 2023 RTC meeting is available on the Minutes section of the SW RTC website:
<https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/regional-transfusion-committees/south-west>
- ST summarised some of the PBM Team's achievements of the past year and some ongoing work. The Obstetric Anaemia Toolkit has been updated and is available via the Hospitals & Science website; PBM educational videos and recordings of other region's education events are available via the PBM England YouTube Channel; team have been trialling PBM pop-up stands in hospitals to promote PBM within the hospital community in conjunction with the Transfusion Teams – happy to support if anyone would find this useful in their hospital; Amber Alert – pre-amber for A- platelets has been stood down but still in pre-amber for O- red cells, with lots of work being undertaken to increase collections and improve stockholding.

4. UKCSAG Update (EC)

- Group last met in November. Fact sheets being reviewed and updated with a deadline to complete by the next meeting in March. They will then be ratified and published on the UKCSAG website.
- 2019 survey results published, and report circulated.
- Winter newsletter circulated and the intention is to produce quarterly. (This is accessible via the SWPBMG SharePoint site)

- The 'questions' section of the meeting considered the use of Band 2s and 3s for cell salvage, as there is no specific documentation around this, and it was agreed it is up to individual trusts to have clear governance/guidelines and policies in place which should include competency assessments.
- It was agreed that Von Willebrand's disease is not a contra-indication for cell salvage.
- The group did not have an issue with the use of cell salvage in malignancy.
- Group looking for new chair. If anyone is interested let EC know.

5. Regional Cell Salvage Data Update – Future Direction and KPIs (OP)

Future direction: There is a general feeling we should probably write-up our experience and publish some of the data. One of the angles being considered is using some of the data to try and encourage people to explore a bit further how cell salvage might impact peri-operative transfusion and explore in greater detail how cell salvage practice is supporting good patient blood management nationally.

As there seems to be a strong desire to continue with the data, OP will be requesting 2022 and 2023 data to upload to the database, but there is no timeframe for this yet.

Standardisation of Practice: As all trusts operate slightly differently, there is a suggestion to develop a sub-group of those interested in cell salvage that can meet and discuss collaborative projects and what we can do to learn from each other.

SWPBMG Standards/KPIs:

The Standards have been adapted with consent from the Welsh Blood Service and are. There was discussion around the weight they might carry in terms of securing funding and the wording of Standard 4 around record keeping. EC agreed that some rewording may be necessary to reflect local hospital governance structures and record keeping systems but that it was apparent from the UKCSAG survey that there is a huge variance in record keeping and they wanted to strive for better governance around this. ST suggested that because of the wide variations in practice, it may be worth considering setting minimum standards. JD queried whether the wording of Standard 3 should include positive patient identification at the time of re-infusion. EC thanked everyone for their feedback and is happy to receive any further feedback via email. This will be considered, and any necessary changes made before they are re-circulated for final comment. They can then go to the RTC for final sign-off and going forward can be a useful tool for annual audit and benchmarking exercises.

6. Educational Presentations:

IG gave a presentation on the Cell Salvage Service at St Michael's Hospital, Bristol.

SS gave a presentation on an Amniotic Fluid Embolism with DIC.

EC reminded the group to upload vaginal cell salvage data to the database on SharePoint.

7. AOB

None

8. Future Meeting Dates

19.06.24 – Informal/open forum

24.09.24 – F2F, Oake Manor, nr Taunton

Please let EC know if you have any interesting cases or pieces of work you would like to share with the group at the September meeting.

A copy of the meeting slidedeck has been uploaded to SharePoint

SW PBM Meeting, 23.01.24: Actions		
	Actioner	Comments
Share Business Cases, MSBOS, PILs, etc with the group	All	Send to JM for uploading to SharePoint
Amend ToRs in line with discussion	EC	Re-circulate to group for comment and send to RTC Chair
Contact EC if interested in UKCSAG Chair role		
Send any further feedback around the Standards and KPIs	All	
Amend Standards and KPIs in line with feedback	EC	Forward amended version to RTC Chair for RTC sign-off
Upload vaginal cell salvage data to database on SharePoint	All that use	
Contact EC if interested in presenting at the F2F meeting in September		