



**Minutes of the Meeting of
National Transfusion Practitioner Network Working Group
of the NBTC**

**Tuesday 10th September 2024
10:00am – 11:30am
via MS Teams**

Present		
Aimi Baird	AB	Chair - Advanced Transfusion Practitioner, Integrated Laboratory Medicine, The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Lydia Baxter	LB	Transfusion Practitioner, Salford Royal Hospital (NCA)
Emily Carpenter	EC	Transfusion Practitioner, Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Ant Jackson	AJ	Transfusion Practitioner, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Julie Jackson	JJ	Transfusion Practitioner, James Paget University Hospital Foundation Trust, Norfolk
Michelle Lake	ML	Transfusion Practitioner, Huddersfield Royal Infirmary
Stuart Lord	SL	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Rachel Moss	RM	Senior Transfusion Practitioner, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust
Janet Nicholson	JN	Transfusion Practitioner, North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS
Emily Rich	ER	Transfusion Practitioner, North West Anglia – Hinchingsbrooke and Peterborough
Jonathan Ricks	JR	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, University Hospitals Southampton NHS Foundation Trust
Dipika Solanki	DS	Trust Transfusion Practitioner Team, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
Rebecca Spiers	RS	Transfusion Practitioner, Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals, NHS Foundation Trust
Carolyn Warren	CW	National TP Lead, Spire Healthcare
Pascal Winter	PW	Transfusion Practitioner, Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust
Joanne Bark	JB	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHS Blood, and Transplant
Michael Desborough	MD	Transfusion Research Network lead, Consultant Haematologist, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Jane Murphy	JM	NW RTC Administrator (Minutes)
Jennifer Rock	JRo	T2024 Education Lead, NHSBT
Apologies		
Tracy Johnston	TJ	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, Patient Blood Management NHSBT, London
Selma Turkovic	ST	Patient Blood Management Practitioner BMS, Patient Blood Management, NHSBT, London

Minutes

1	Welcome & Apologies – Aimi Baird	Actions
	AB welcomed the group and apologies listed above. Group members gave a brief introduction.	
2	NTPN Relaunch	
	<p>AM advised the big relaunch of this group.</p> <p>Now need to use what has come out of the IBI report, Transfusion 2024 and now Transfusion Transformation. There is a lot of focus on TPs which has never happened before. Unfortunately, the people that needed to do the work for what is required for TPs are the TPs who are very under resourced and underfunded.</p> <p>NHSBT have created a post to support. AM introduced Jen Rock who is going to be working very closely with this group / TPs.</p> <p>Action: Any TPs from the regions who wish to volunteer to work with JRo, please let AB know.</p> <p>Whole purpose is to push the TP agenda, getting recognition and the ball rolling with the development of what TPs need and to make sure when people come into the TP role there is a structured pathway. Make the TP role a stand out role that everyone understands and that there is information readily available in support and resources whether you are new to role, or further ahead in the role - there should still be something there to help improve.</p> <p>AB thanked the group for everything they have done up to this point.</p>	ALL
	<p>JRo gave presentation starting with the aim of this meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To re-launch the NTPN to demonstrate nationally what TPs currently do and the positive impact the TP role has on patient care. • As per ToR – identify Transfusion Practitioner service development and feedback to the NBTC. <p>JRo delivered the following slides:</p>	
	 <h3 style="margin: 0;">Feedback-common themes</h3> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TP2024 Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform for TPs • Recognition of the role from regulatory and professional bodies • Promotion of the role • Standardisation • Definition of roles and responsibilities • Education –especially induction for new TPs • Resources for TPs • IT support • Framework • Framework- to be evidence and research based </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework steering and working groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition from professional and regulatory bodies • Education resources for TPs, especially new TPs • Support for framework by external stakeholders – NHS England • Collaborative work • National recognition • Evidence and research based • Patient focused • Governance and ownership of the framework • NTPN to provide the platform </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">The NTPN have the capability to action the feedback</p>	



New TP support and education- example



NTPN-Set up a working group to review what resources and initiatives have been developed locally to support new TPs
 Design a programme and workbook
 Host that on the NTPN website



Support resources- Transfusion training hub potential to have a Transfusion Practitioner page
 IBMS – new TP webinars
 Promotion of supporting new TPs within own region and others



Demonstration- NTPN present as a collaborative at SHOT, BBTS etc articles written for Blood Lines
 QI project or similar that captures how supported new TPs feel now and, in the future.
 Basis to build and develop



Bespoke training hosted by BBTS and supported by NHSBT
 Qualification



The ask of the NTPN



- **Nothing new-different way of recording work and promoting at a national level**
- Embrace and support the network
- Agree on new agenda and projects
- Be willing to lead and participate
- Evidence the impact that the NTPN has on the TP role
- Evidence the impact of the TP role
- Detailing how the TP reflects national NHS strategies
- Present the work of the NTPN locally, regionally and nationally



Ultimate benefits

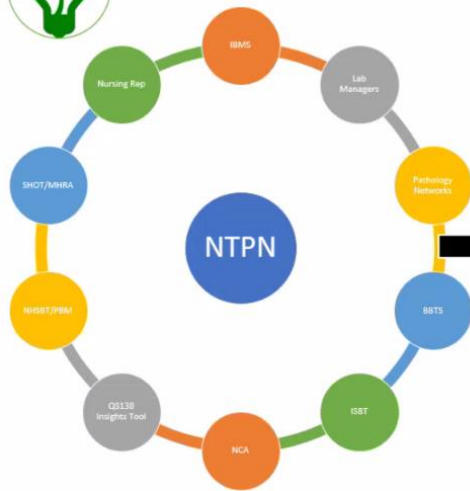


Framework





The future



Within the NTPN remit



Transfusion services

The data above covers all of haematology and includes blood transfusion – a significant number of haematologists and haematology clinical scientists have key roles in blood transfusion services including the NHSBT Special Health Authority. Surveys by the UK Transfusion Laboratory Collaborative have highlighted staffing gaps and concerns regarding skill mix, training and safety in blood transfusion.

In our deep dives, we also noted the central importance of well-trained **transfusion practitioners**. These staff carry out multiple invaluable roles across hospital transfusion services, including training all staff involved in transfusion, encouraging engagement and understanding from other hospital specialties, and supporting lab staff regarding stock management. **These transfusion specialists must be allocated sufficient dedicated time to carry out their duties. This is a role where a network peer group and support will facilitate recruitment, development and retention.**



What can this group action now?



- Agree on NTPN Agenda- majority of agenda items will be projects
- Volunteers to lead on projects- do not have to do the work but help demonstrate/present the work being done
- Education Working group
 - Collaborate with regional groups
 - Induction pack- examples of these across the country ask if TPs would be willing to share and generate a "generic" NTPN template that signposts resources available, shadow at different trusts, opportunities to network
 - WhatsApp groups per region- you can mute it if you want but who may use it?
 - Education for TPs- IBMS webinars, NHS Elect- is there any funding from NBTC to request a bespoke webinar?
- Admin support
 - Produce reports following each meeting and place them on the website
 - Joint email address for information regarding the network
- Benchmarking looking at regions, looking at trends, highlighting positive and negative outliers
- Support
- NPTN Poster templates

JRo finished off, saying she is more than happy to kick start and help facilitate the education if required.

Membership

Following on from information sent out prior to the meeting, AB highlighted that the group needs to make sure we have representatives attending the meetings for every aspect of what we do. Currently, we have affiliation / representation from:

- Transfusion Practitioners from each region
- BBTS
- ISBT
- NHSBT - PBM Team / QS138
- NCA
- Nursing
- Patient

Need to add representation for:

- NCA
- QS138
- Nursing
- Patient

Agenda

To be aligned with the IBI and regional changes. AB shared the draft agenda (below) proposing what should be included as regular items. Highlighting the use of correct wording so someone outside of the Transfusion world understands that it is important we are doing.



NTPN Agenda 10th
September 2024.doc

AM discussed the following proposed agenda items:

Transfusion Transformation

Suggested have leads for the three workstreams who would sit on these groups who can then feedback at the NTPN Meetings.

IBI

NHS England have recently reached out and requested a TP with nursing background to be involved in the recommendations which is a really good opportunity.

Transfusion Research Network

Dr Mike Desborough joined the call and spoke about how he is looking at moving forward the transfusion clinical research network which NHSBT are investing in. The idea is to support research in transfusion across England to begin with but eventually will be the whole of the UK. It will be open to anyone across transfusion.

There is a real potential for people within this group that have got interests in particular things to for example, audit locally to get a certain amount of information but then if you could decide to work together with the group as a whole, you will do the same thing at the same time, you can then have a really powerful data set and do some really practice changing work.

Webpage Update

NTPN section of the NBTC website, currently not much there only the ToR. Want to make this the forefront and fit for purpose. Include items that will help a TP make the first steps into what is trying to be achieved. Some ideas that have been discussed when looking at the relaunch, is:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inductions for TPs • Business case examples / templates • Poster examples / templates • Presentation examples / templates <p><u>IT</u> Really useful to make group more noticed via social media i.e. on “X (Twitter).” Suggested a NTPN Instagram page. Start with using #NTPN. AB looking for volunteer who is good on these platforms to support and set up.</p> <p>Volunteers do not have to be from this group, it can be TPs within the regions who would then feedback to the regional TP for this group. AB would like to get as many TPs involved as possible in as many working groups as possible. AB will put forward any TP who wishes to be involved but it does need the engagement from TPs from all regions.</p> <p>Action: AB to send out more details to group, requesting volunteers for what is required re agenda leads and groups that need representation on.</p>	AB
3	AOB	
	<p><u>ISBT</u> (RM) Anyone interested in what is going on and becoming part of this group, get in touch with RM as always looking for volunteers.</p>	
4	Next Meeting date	
	<p>Tuesday 3rd December2024, 10:00am – 11:30am Via MS Teams</p>	