

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
NORTH WEST REGIONAL TRANSFUSION COMMITTEE**

Monday 14th October 2024 via MS Teams

Present (57)

Craig Carroll – Chair (CC)

Lesley Adams

Imtiaz Ali

Daisy Alty

Pete Baker

Jo Bark

Lydia Baxter

Lee Carter

Steven Carter

Laura Cooper

Lucy Cooper

Emma Copperwaite

Lorna Diggory

Luke Dowey

Karen Farrar

Emily Fisher

Neil Fuller

Jan Gorry

Amanda Gould (AG)

Julie Harrison

Rukhsana Hashmat

Daniel Holmes

Helen Hughes

Jerjis Jeewa

Rachel Langan

Louise McCreery

Helen McNamara

Bernadette Mir

Kaiser Mushtaq

Mike Nicholls

Janet Nicholson

Mike Ntsabane

Dan Palmer

Alice Panayi-Brown

Louise Polyzois

Clare Quarterman

Andy Quirk

Katherine Roberts

Donna Rodd

Jennie Rogers

Salford Royal Hospital

Leighton Hospital

Blackpool Victoria Hospital

Royal Preston Hospital

LUHFT

NHSBT - PBM

Salford Royal Hospital

ELHT

Arrowe Park Hospital

Salford Royal Hospital

MFT

MFT

The Christie Hospital

Clatterbridge Cancer Centre

Royal Bolton Hospital

STHK

Blackpool Victoria Hospital

LUHT

Macclesfield District General Hospital

STHK

NHSBT – Customer Services

Liverpool Women's Hospital

STHK

LTHTR

Warrington Hospital

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary

Liverpool Women's Hospital

MFT

Royal Oldham Hospital

Spire Manchester

NCIC

MBHT

NHSBT - RCI

Leighton Hospital

MFT

LHCH – HTC Chair

Noble's Hospital – Isle of Man

Royal Preston Hospital

MFT

Jessica Sandham
Lauren Sekloawu
Tracey Shackleton
Dave Simcox
Gillian Smith
Rebecca Spiers
Emma Stansfield
David Taylor
Nicole Taylor
Natalie Tennant
Carla Thomas
Hannah Thomas
Rhian Thomas
Jim Wesson
Holly Wissett
Rebecca Wright
Raisa Zaman

Alder Hey Children's Hospital
MFT
Alder Hey Children's Hospital
LUHFT
ELHT
Warrington Hospital
The Christie Hospital
STHK
MBHT
NHSBT – Hospital Services
Alder Hey Children's Hospital – HTC Chair
LUHFT
Warrington Hospital
NCA
LUHFT
LUHFT – Aintree Hospital
Stepping Hill

Minutes

Jane Murphy (JM)

NHSBT

Apologies

Francis Andrews
Vikram Singh
Jagdish Adiyodi

Royal Bolton Hospital
Clatterbridge Cancer Centre
ELHT

Minutes

1. **Welcome & Apologies**

Craig Carroll welcomed members to the meeting and thanked everyone for joining.

CC asked everyone to take 2 minutes to complete the evaluation form as feedback from members is important.

The persons listed above sent their apologies prior to the meeting date.

2. **Minutes of RTC Meeting 22nd April 2024**

The minutes circulated prior to the meeting. Minutes reviewed and agreed as a true representation.

Action: To be posted on the website (JM)

Action list all completed.

3. **NBTC & RTC Chair's Meeting, 23rd September 2024**

Craig Carroll attended both these meetings virtually.

CC highlighted and feedback on the following key points:

- Funding, staffing, support for Transfusion requirements – a problem everywhere
- Transfusion 2024 rebadging softly to Transfusion Transformation
- Need for an NHSBT Consultant in NW to be minuted nationally. Jayne Peters has been sorely missed. Funding available for joint haematology posts (NHSBT/Trust)
- Absolute reticence to support National Database for ICS and not part of the Research or Innovation agenda for Transfusion 2024
- Infected Blood Inquiry (IBI); still waiting for the recommendations and how we are going to implement these. There are 7 volumes of recommendations. Recommendation 7 focuses on blood safety in transfusion.
- Aligning governance of Transfusion 2024, Transfusion Transformation and IBI.
- Progressing with a patient co-chair for NBTC; aim to integrate patient voices more prominently in future.
- Transfusion Transformation Symposium held June 2024. Broad representation and was positively received.
- Current state of Blood Stocks. National plan to discuss amber alert exit strategies and minimising future stock shortages.
- Royal College of Pathologist holding “Advances in Transfusion Medicine Symposium” on 20th & 21st November 2024. This is free to attend and is virtual.
- Update of the Indication Codes for Transfusion in Adults – summary of publishes recommendations 2024 available on NBTC Website.

- NIHR HIC Patient Blood Management & Perioperative Care Database – creating a national transfusion data asset. 3 phases: Phase 1; approval & data flow. Phase 2; collaboration. Phase 3; future proofing.
- NIHR Electronic Systems in Blood Transfusion. Implementation of electronic systems associated with reduced wastage of RBCs / significant potential annual savings from RBCs issued at national level.

A copy of the minutes from these meetings are available by contacting Jane Murphy, NW RTC Administrator jane.murphy@nhsbt.nhs.uk

4. **NHSBT Customer Services & PBM Updates**

Customer Services

Presentation given by Rukhsana Hashmat focused on the Amber Alert.

Current Blood Stocks

- Highlighted current blood stocks situation. Request to continue to follow Hospital actions as stated on the communications which can be found on the Hospitals & Science website. which are being maintained. However, still concerns so that is why still on Amber alert.

What's Your Blood Type (WYBT) Event

- This is marketing initiative where staff, students or members of the public who are keen to become a blood donor can find out their likely blood type and register to become a new blood donor. These events can be offered to workplaces that could guarantee a minimum of sign-ups per day, depending on the company size or public areas with a high footfall. Will also make an assessment to ensure there is a need for marketing activity in that local area. If interested in hosting a session, please contact partnerships@nhsbt.nhs.uk

PBM

Presentation given by Jo Bark. Highlights:

Resources - reminder

- Clinical Resource for PBM strategies
Quick reference guide that has QR codes to resources such as PBM Toolkit, iron deficiency anaemia, TXA, Cell Salvage. Can be found on the Hospital & Sciences website
[Resources to support safe practice - Hospitals and Science - NHSBT](#)
- CMV Infographic
Overview of SaBTO recommendations for CMV negative components. Guide to help with appropriate ordering.
[Education - Hospitals and Science - NHSBT \(blood.co.uk\)](#)

Resources – new / updated

- Irradiated Blood Components
Factsheet has been updated to reflect new rad-sure label
[irradiated-factsheet-1924.pdf](#) Also, there's a poster / screensaver which draw attention to the new label.
- Receiving anti-D immunoglobulin in pregnancy
This is a new patient information leaflet. Encouraging digital version where possible [Receiving anti-D immunoglobulin in pregnancy leaflet](#)

SHOT

- Annual SHOT Report 2023 was published in July 2024.
- Following on from this, SHOT have hosted a series of “Meet the Experts” webinars which have been presented by the SHOT chapter authors. These can be found on the SHOT website [Educational Resources - Serious Hazards of Transfusion](#) Upcoming webinars; 12th November, Avoidable, Delayed & Under or Over Transfusion and 17th December, Information Technology.
- SHOT Newsletter; you can subscribe to the snapshot and receive a monthly email with the newsletter.

Audits

- NCA repeat audit for the Nice Quality Standards has been issued and circulated on 1st October with a submission date of beginning of December.
- NCA Major Haemorrhage audit in Spring 2025.
- Regional anaemia base line audit to look at current practice to be issued soon.

Education

- BTEDG sessions held on the last Wednesday of the month. Once registered you get notified automatically of each session. Next session, 30th October and is on Cell Salvage.
- NW RTC hosting on behalf of NBTC “Consent, Refusal and Alternatives!” on 15th November via MS Teams.

5. Feedback from 2024 Annual SHOT Symposium

RTC funded 6 members to attend the 2024 Annual SHOT Symposium on 9th July in Manchester.

Luke Dowey presented highlights from the day.

6. NHSBT RCI / Transport / Hospital Services

Presentation given by Dan Palmer, RCI and Natalie Tennant, Hospital Services highlighting NHSBT response to major incident in Southport incident on 29th July including summary of learning.

7. Feedback from Hospitals

Thank you to Amanda Gould who presented the feedback from the 16 HTC reports received. Transfusion Practitioners mostly completed the reports.

Highlights

HTC Key Achievements – themes

- Updated policies
- Training new staff and tracking system training.
- 3 trusts mentioned Dr induction training introduced.
- Improved competency compliance and training
- Improved Traceability compliance (electronic systems mentioned).
- Major Haemorrhage process reviewed
- Completed UKAS inspections under new requirements.
- Electronic prescribing and consent introduced

HTC Key Priorities - themes

- Improving laboratory staffing levels
- Review of TACO (following Patient safety alert)
- Reviewing HTC and improving engagement.
- Updating policies and documents
- EPR – Introducing or updating electronic requesting and prescribing and review of risks
- Rollout/upgrade of electronic tracking systems

HTC Audits in Progress / Completed – themes

- National audits - several
- Localised audits on authorisation / consent / paperwork
- Learning points shared

In addition to the standard questions asked, the following is feedback from the additional information requested from Hospitals:

Sample Validity

- 12 Trusts following 7-day rule
- 4 Trusts following 3-day rule

Discussion held around what is happening in Trusts within the region

Consent Training

- 1 Trust stated they did not provide training for consent.
- 12 stated the Trust provided this training through e-learning.
- 8 stated this training is provided as face-to-face training or on induction (some Trusts provided both face to face and e-learning).
- Consent training often provided in transfusion training for ordering and authorising blood.

Anaesthesia Associates

- 7 Trusts do have Anaesthesia Associates – mixed response as to whether involved in transfusions. Generally, yes, but under direct supervision.
- 9 Trusts do not have these staff.

Presentation available by contacting Jane Murphy, NW RTC Administrator

jane.murphy@nhsbt.nhs.uk

8. AOB

Air Ambulance Service

Relatively large regular usage of O negative blood. Discussions with Salford laboratories about the stocking of the ambulance with O positive. LB advised of interim discussions of putting O neg and O pos in two separate boxes so there is a clear choice based on the patient's demographics.

Sample Validity

Discussion around an issue where a sample was rejected because the sample bottle expired before the validity period that would have been allocated to the patient.

9. Closing Comments

CC thanked everyone for joining the meeting and asked everyone to ensure their HTC's are active and have representation at RTC level.

If anyone has any issues to follow on from this meeting or anything new, they wish to discuss, please email either CC directly or through Jane Murphy.

10. Evaluation

Evaluation Form

Feedback is vital from members who attend RTC meetings as this helps plan and support future meetings. Members were asked to complete an online evaluation which was sent out following the meeting.

The results of the evaluations for this meeting were as follows:

- Completion rate of 39%
- Feedback received:
 - Do you feel the agenda items relevant? Yes - 100%
 - How well were the agenda items discussed? Excellent/Good - 100%
 - Overall, how would you rate the meeting? Excellent/Good - 100%
 - Recommend NW RTC Meeting to others Yes – 100%

11. Date of Next Meeting

April / May 2025 via MS Teams. To be confirmed.