

South East Regional Transfusion Team

Wednesday 12 February 2025

Via Microsoft Teams

Approved Minutes

Present:	
Howard Wakeling (HW) Chair	Consultant Anaesthetist, University Hospitals Sussex
Simon Stanworth (SS)	Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT
Tanya Hawkins (TH)	Transfusion Practitioner, Royal Berkshire (BSPS)
Ruth O'Donnell (RO'D)	Transfusion Practitioner, University Hospitals Sussex
Emily White (EW)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Isle of Wight
Emma O'Donovan (EO'D)	Consultant Anaesthetist, Sussex & Surrey Healthcare Trust
Susan Mitchell (SM)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, East Kent Hospitals
Jonathan Ricks (JR)	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, University Hospitals Soton
Lauren Hamilton (LH)	Transfusion Practitioner, University Hospitals Oxford
Liz Tatam (LT)	Transfusion practitioner, Sussex & Surrey Healthcare Trust
Kim East (KE)	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, BSPS)
Lisa March (LM)	Transfusion Practitioner, East Kent Hospitals
Shabana Tufail (ST)	Customer Services Manager, Oxford NHSBT
Danny Bolton (DB)	Customer Services Manager, Tooting, NHSBT
Anwen Davies (AD)	Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT
Frances Moll (FM)	SE RTC Administrator, NHSBT (Minutes)

Apologies:	
Kerry Dowling	Zoe Summat
Carol Stenning	

MINUTES
Welcome and Apologies: HW welcomed everyone to the first meeting in 2025. Kerry Dowling, Carol Stenning and Zoe Summat sent their apologies.
Review of Minutes for the meeting held on 11 December 2024. These were approved and can be uploaded onto the NBTC/SE Regional website. ACTION
Terms of Reference – to be kept on the agenda for review after Transfusion Transformation is launched.
SE RTC Budget (2024) – it was agreed that the remaining budget could be used to pay the registration fee for transfusion colleagues to attend an educational conference. Only the registration fee would be paid (not travel or accommodation) – FM to devise an application form to be completed by applicants wishing to attend. ACTION The applications (provided anonymously) would be reviewed by HW and KD and selected. It is essential that the applicant has agreed attendance with their manager/supervisor, and that travel is covered by their Trust/department. Those who attend would be asked to provide a short presentation at a future RTC Education event. Application form to be circulated to lead TPs / TLMs / HTC Chairs.
Blood Stocks Update: DB provided an update of the latest Blood Stocks figures. The following came from an NHSBT Coms letter sent out on 10/02/2025:

A D negative platelet stock levels have returned to Green. All platelet stock levels are now at Green status.

Red cell Stock Update – O red cells remain in AMBER, B D negative continues in Pre-Amber

Workplan 2025:

The meeting reviewed the ideas and suggestions put forward at joint meetings held in 2024. The following suggested topics will be covered by NBTC Education Events in the coming year: IBI and its implications; Neonatal and paediatric transfusion; major haemorrhage across different patient groups.

Members were particularly interested in the following topics:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Lessons Learned – Cyber Attack
- LIMS – It was suggested KE and SM worked together to share their experiences. KE's Trust completed the upgrade last year, SM's Trust was upgrading at present. **ACTION** Provide a short survey for colleagues use as a framework for discussion – Are there experiences to share; what is happening across the region? What are the system capabilities/ /Challenges.

SM/DB had attended a TADG meeting where the Cyber Attack was raised for discussion, but very little detail was given. SM felt cybersecurity is often managed by the Corporate Trust IT Department, and there are variations on priorities. SS highlighted that this topic was likely to a topic at BSH and BBTS this year. It was agreed this might be a presentation to have at Transfusion Bites later in the year.

FM to ask CS to provide more information about the Benchmarking Summary on Red Cell usage. **ACTION**

AD referred to the IBI and Transfusion Transformation and a number of the topics suggested– Business Cases, IT Issues, TXA and Haemorrhage – would likely be part of their objectives and business cases for action in the coming year.

Education Event: the NBTC Education topic chosen was:

Management of adverse events including PSIRF, human factors and safety.

The agreed date is Thursday 3 July 2025.

Suggested presentations / presenters for the programme:

- MHRA – Chris Robbie or Mike Dawes
- Haemovigilance – SHOT (PSIRF/Human Factors) – Names suggested: Nicola Swarbrick, and Victoria Tuckley both SHOT Lab Incident Specialists. Consider case studies or examples they have had to investigate.
- University of Leeds – Dr Jonathan Benn (Associate Professor in Healthcare Quality and Safety) – NIHR funded - patient safety research collaborative. What can we learn from other areas outside transfusion? (Post meeting: SS contacted Dr Benn, he is available)
- LT agreed to give a PSIRF presentation with a colleague from her Governance Team. LT asked where other Trusts were with PSIRF – if they could e-mail her and let her know, so she can adapt her presentation accordingly. **ACTION**

It was suggested that a presentation giving a “practical application” showing an example of human factors would be interesting – everyone to consider if they know of any examples/case studies. **ACTION**

TH suggested finding a case study or example of Wrong Blood in Tube (WBiT) – why is such a simple process still not being carried out properly – why is it still going wrong. **ACTION**

Note: CSMs unable to attend – National CSM meeting on the 3rd.

FM to begin to draw up a programme.

Standing Items

- QS138 Quality Insights Tool – AD provided an update on the latest stage of data collection. Four regional audit cycles have been completed since the Tool was launched – we are currently between cycles. Last year we audited over 2000 cases in the South East, with 23 hospitals in the region taking part, the highest number yet. AD is putting together a survey to find out how South East TPs are using the data, and to find out if there are any comments or good practice to be shared. This will be particularly helpful to provide new/less experienced TPs with education on quality improvement.
The schedule for 2025 – auditing quarter 4 24/25 in April, and auditing quarter 2 25/26 in October.
- Transfusion Transformation – keep on the agenda – awaiting launch in April.
- TP Meeting – next meeting 6 March
- TLM meets – OX/Soton (next meeting April tba) / TADG (next meeting 13 March)

NCA Audits: (For information)

- Massive Haemorrhage audit (starts 1st May 2025)
- Anti-D (midwives) (starts 1st October 2025).

NHSBT Updates:

PBMP: AD

PBM launched their improved PBM page on the [Hospital & Sciences Website](#) – much easier to navigate and greater accessibility of content. It includes an ORed Cell Tool Kit; Anaemia pages have been updated - new page on Iron Deficiency, plus B12, Folate Tool Kit and an Obstetric Anaemia Toolkit. Please have a look and your feedback would be most welcome. There's a new video to help prepare donors for blood donation – currently hosted on the Give Blood YouTube Channel.

Please note there have been updates to videos for: pre-transfusion blood sampling, and admin blood component checking process – please update your links if you are using these.

CHECK

There are a number of other updates/leaflets in production – more to follow in the coming months.

Links and other information within the attached presentation



PBM update Feb
2025_.pdf

CSMs:

DB

There has been a new CSM appointed in Collingdale.

The Customer Satisfaction Survey results are available on the [CSM website](#) – these have also been shared locally.

Within the attached presentation are FAQs for the Amber Alert and the Infected Blood Inquiry (IBI).



CSM RTT Update Feb
25.pdf

Southampton Project - Update: (Sent by CS)

- Phase 3 project making good progress. Going live 26th Feb.
- Will return 'West Hospitals' (Bournemouth, Poole, Salisbury, Dorset) to Southampton for routine am run.
- Will return 3/5 Southampton General routine deliveries and weekends.
- Will return all non-routine deliveries to Southampton.
- Remaining routines to be provided by reprovisioned centres.
- Second issue room created.
- Still no freezers or irradiator on site.
- Short term solution. (Medium term planned to commence later this year.)
- Tooting has employed an NHSBT driver as a result of the reprovisioning and they will be performing the am routine round for Portsmouth and Basingstoke.

AOB:

LT raised a query regarding retention of records. This was linked to the IBI recommendations, and a letter issued by NHS England.

Members discussed their interpretation of the letter – not everyone had seen this. No conclusion was reached, and it was agreed it needed wider discussion, to be raised at the NTPN meeting.

Annual Summary – FM is still looking for material for the summary – a celebration of activities and events across the past year. **ACTION**

Next meeting: 13 May 2025 (1300 – 1500)