**North East & Yorkshire RTC Meeting Minutes**

**13:00 – 16:00 Monday 06 March 2023**

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| **Attendees** | | |
| Rachel Allan | RA | Senior Biomedical Scientist, Mid Yorkshire |
| Abe Aweda | AA | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, North Lincs & Goole |
| Aimi Baird | AB | Transfusion Practitioner, Newcastle |
| Anna Bartholomew | ABa | Transfusion Practitioner, Northumbria |
| Amanda Baxter | ABax | Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Children’s |
| Helen Baxter | HB | Senior BMS, North Tees |
| Gillian Bell | GB | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Doncaster and Bassetlaw |
| Carol Blears | CB | Transfusion Practitioner, Mid Yorkshire |
| David Bruce | DB | Head of RCI Newcastle, NHSBT |
| Andrew Charlton | AC | Consultant Haematologist, Newcastle and NHSBT |
| Laura Condren | LC | Transfusion Technical Lead, South of Tyne Clinical Pathology Services |
| Robin Coupe | RC | Customer Service Manager, NHSBT |
| Debbie Cox | DC | Transfusion Practitioner, North Tees & Hartlepool |
| Khaled El-Ghariani | KEG | Consultant Haematologist, Chair of HTC, Sheffield Teaching |
| Stephanie Ferguson | SF | Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds |
| Jo Gilbert | JG | Senior BMS, Co Durham & Darlington |
| Cathy Harrison | CH | Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Sheffield Haemophilia & Thrombosis Centre |
| Emma Harrison | EH | Transfusion Practitioner, North Lincs and Goole |
| Mo Helmy | MH | GP Trainee / National Population Health Fellow |
| Pamela Henderson | PH | Session Sister, NHSBT |
| Alison Hirst | AH | Transfusion Practitioner, Airedale |
| Brian Hockley | BH | Data Analysis and Audit Manager, NHSBT |
| George Holmes | GH | Clinical lead for Transfusion, Northumbria |
| Catrina Ivel | CI | Transfusion Practitioner, York and Scarborough |
| Marina Karakantza | MK | Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT |
| Sam Kershaw | SK | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Calderdale and Huddersfield |
| Raheela Khalid | RK | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Nuffield Leeds |
| Rohit Kumar | RK | Consultant Neonatologist, South Tees |
| Joanne Lawson | JL | Blood Sciences Departmental Manager, Co Durham & Darlington |
| Kate Marklew | KM | Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds |
| Carole McBride | CMc | Transfusion Practitioner, Mid Yorkshire |
| Chantal Morrell | CM | Quality Coordinator, Co Durham & Darlington |
| Karen Nesbitt | KN | Transfusion Practitioner, Gateshead |
| Jordan Reed | JRe | Transfusion Practitioner, York and Scarborough |
| Emma Richards | ER | Transfusion Practitioner, Doncaster & Bassetlaw |
| Janice Robertson | JR | **Minutes**, RTC Administrator, NHSBT |
| Jennifer Rock | JRo | Transfusion Practitioner, Leeds |
| Abayomi Shotade | AS | Transfusion Practitioner, Gateshead |
| Delia Smith | DS | Customer Service Manager, NHSBT |
| Faye Smith | FS | Transfusion Practitioner, Harrogate |
| Youssef Sorour | YS | **Chair**, Consultant Haematologist and chair of HTC, Doncaster and Bassetlaw |
| Mark Taplin | MT | Blood Transfusion Manager, Barnsley |
| Brian Taylor | BT | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Sheffield Teaching |
| Angeline Thiongo | AT | Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Teaching |
| Karen Ward | KW | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Northumbria |
| Abbie White | AW | Transfusion Practitioner, North Lincs & Goole |

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| **Apologies** | | |
| Bushra Amin | BA | Transfusion Practitioner, Calderdale and Huddersfield |
| Nini Aung | NA | Consultant Haematologist and chair of HTC, North Tees & Hartlepool |
| Amanda Burns | AB | Chief BMS, Hull and East Yorkshire |
| Carolyn Carveth Marshal | CCM | Transfusion Practitioner, South Tees |
| Rachael Denham | RD | Scientific Consultant, NHSBT |
| Jenny Fullthorpe | JF | Head Biomedical Scientist, York & Scarborough |
| Clive Graham | CG | Consultant Microbiologist and chair of HTC, North Cumbria |
| Michelle Lake | ML | Transfusion Practitioner, Calderdale & Huddersfield |
| Paul Jennings | PJ | Consultant in Emergency Medicine ,Chair of HTC, Airedale |
| April Joslin | AJ | Transfusion Practitioner, Northumbria |
| Judith Morgan | JM | Consultant in Paediatric Anaesthesia, Chair of HTC, Sheffield Children’s |
| Jamie Maddox | JD | Consultant Haematologist, South Tees |
| Ric Procter | RP | **Deputy chair**, A&E Consultant and Chair of HTC, South Tees |
| Karen Simblet | KS | QA Manager, NHSBT Newcastle |
| Gayle Sugden | GS | Blood Stocks Management Lead, Leeds |
| John Sutton | JS | Transfusion Laboratory Manager, North Cumbria |
| Rachel Wilkinson-Hall | RWH | Transfusion Practitioner, Sheffield Teaching |
| Sasha Wilson | SW | Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT |
| Megan Wrightson | MW | Transfusion Practitioner, South Tees |
| Jemma York | JY | Consultant Obstetrician, Chair of HTC, Co Durham & Darlington |

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| 1. | Welcome | | | |
|  | YS welcomed the group. | | | |
| **2.** | **Education Section** | | | |
| 2.1 | **Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura: Specialised Commissioned Services**  Presented by Cathy Harrison | | | |
| 2.2 | **Update from BBTS**  Presented by Mo Helmy | | | |
| 2.3 | **QS138 Quality Insights Audit Tool Update**  Presented by Brian Hockley | | | |
| 2.4 | **NHSBT update from Amber Alert**    Presented by Andrew Charlton  Points made by the group:   * A National Patient Information Leaflet would have been beneficial. Specific groups of patients were contacted. * Debate on use of D pos for D neg patients continues. * Increased use of TXA unlikely to reduce blood demand much in early stages of a shortage. | | | |
| **3.** | Apologies noted. Minutes of previous meeting, 02.11.2022 confirmed  **Action**: Post confirmed minutes onto JPAC website. | | | |
| 3.1 | **Matters arising** | | | |
| Closed | Confirmed minutes of June meeting, posted onto JPAC website. | | | |
| c/fwd | Scanning of wristbands from other Trusts after patients have been transferred contributing to sample rejection. Contact Julie Staves to ask if there is a SOP for managing this issue that she is willing to share. | | | |
| Closed | Cell Salvage activity added to RTT agenda and HTC reports, to try to develop a more formal register of who is currently providing it and look to support each other to develop the service. | | | |
| Closed | Brief survey to capture intelligence of what went well in Trusts during amber alert, from PBM team completed. | | | |
| Closed | Amber Alert presentation circulated to the group | | | |
| Closed | Request representative from BSMS attend next meeting to advise what reports could be produced covered in item 12.3. | | | |
| **4** | **Update from NBTC** | | | |
|  | **NBTC meeting**   * No meetings since last RTC meeting * RTC chairs and NBTC minutes <https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/national-blood-transfusion-committee/business> | | | |
| 5. | **Review of NBTC / RTC’s structure**     * Suggestion that one of the RTCs take forward a pilot with a Regional Medical Director in NHS England and ICBs. Overall, the idea is to increase the ability of the RTC to influence the Trusts within its area and increase engagement from higher up in NHS England and NHSBT. * Following the Amber Alert the question “Why can't we view national stocks of blood in both NHSBT and Trusts?” was asked. There is some interest in how we might be able to fund this. * Any feedback or ideas from this group will be most welcome. * Mandatory requirements of HTC’s should be dictated by NHSE. | | | |
| **6.** | **Reports from Hospital Transfusion Teams** | | | |
| **Airedale NHS Trust** | | | **Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust** | **Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**  No report submitted |
| **Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust** | | | **County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust** | **Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** |
| **Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust** | | | **Hull & East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust**  No report submitted. | **Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust** |
| **Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust** | | | **Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** | **North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust** |
| **Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** | | | **North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust** | **Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust** |
| **Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust** | | | **Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** | **South of Tyne**  (Inc Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trusts) |
| **South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** | | | **The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust** | **York & Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** |
|  | | Key points / common themes from reports:   * Laboratory staffing concerns * Transfusion Practitioner time   Either due to staffing shortages or increased need to deliver IT advances, apheresis, training.   * Staff training issues   Some Trusts have ‘opt out’ option for staff not involved in transfusion.   * Newcastle UKAS inspection: centred on assessors opinion / understanding of temperature monitoring and the role of the hospital blood bank. Requested UKAS   calibration certificates for all temperature monitoring equipment (not supplied by Haemonetics). Other Trusts have different experiences with inspectors on this issue.   * K pos stock deliveries * Northumbria WBIT incidents in Community midwifery teams, introduction of Badgernet instead of hand-held notes being looked into as a possible contributory factor. * Harrogate concerns about consecutive iron infusions with RBC transfusion to facilitate early discharge in same day emergency care. This is a nationally recognised issue; data is available in Trust reports from the NCA 2019 Re-audit of the medical use of red blood cells * CDDFT have had success with O Neg champions: reduction in stock holing and FS at remote sites, monthly analysis of TIMEX use, MHP pack contents (i.e. ensuring O Pos for males and females 50+). * Doncaster & Bassetlaw addressing concerns re mislabelling in ED and maternity via a ‘leader board.’ Hopefully, this will lead to discussion within the team. * Calderdale & Huddersfield considering removing access for staff who are out of competency for BloodTrack on ESR, this may lead to clinical areas being left vulnerable. * Compiling data on cell salvage within Trust, leads or sites with use will be contacted. | | |
| **7.** | | **Budget** | | |
|  | * Expecting an underspend due to most activities continuing to be virtual. * No responses to offer of funding to delegate fee for up to two delegates to attend British Society for Haematology 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting, 22-25 April 2023 / Birmingham. * Funding available for educational events (not post graduate). | | | |
| **8.** | **Haemostasis and Thrombosis Matters** | | | |
|  | * Covered in item 1a. | | | |
| **9.** | **NHSBT Updates** | | | |
| 9.1 | **Customer Service**   * New reduced dose contingency platelet component, this will only be introduced if we move to or try to prevent a red alert shortage situation. A webinar was held on 10 February, hosted by NHSBT. For those that missed it, the event was recorded and can be accessed via: <https://hospital.blood.co.uk/business-continuity/blood-stocks/>   **Action**: In preparation for using the new component NHSBT request that hospitals update the LIMs systems with the new product barcodes. | | | |
| 9.2 | **Quality**   * No update | | | |
| 9.3 | **Patient Blood Management** | | | |
| 9.4 | **RCI** | | | |
| **10.** | **Education and Training** | | | |
| 10.1 | Update on 2023 events | | | |
| 10.2 | Non-Medical Authorisation   * Meeting held on 16 February to review the course and trial technology to see if a hybrid meeting across Barnsley and Newcastle sites was feasible. The trial went well and we intend to hold courses in this format from September, retaining the option for delegates and speakers to join remotely if required. * The review of feedback from our previous meetings showed mostly either excellent or good. * Documentation to be reviewed by the working group and we will bring the completed documentation to either the next RTT or RTC to be ratified. * 2023 events - Thursday 16th March, Wednesday 21st June, Wednesday 20th September, Thursday 7th December | | | |
| 10.3 | National TP events  **TP2023 National Transfusion Practitioner Symposium – 17 & 18 May 2023, 10am to 2pm**  Day 1 – PBM: How can we achieve it – discussion and tips for successful implementation of PBM strategies Day 2 – Transfusion 2024 – including TP job descriptions and competencies.  [Register to attend](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=jxsa4VKPCEaPdkZ_8dNMlgUTvt2oxZlJr0osdOz4cyBUMDJKS0s3TFo5V0dHMFpBWDk2UUJONkdQRy4u)  [Flyer for TP2023 National Transfusion Practitioner Symposium (PDF 783KB)](https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/document-library/documents/flyer-pdf/download-file/Flyer.pdf)  [Programme for TP2023 National Transfusion Practitioner Symposium (PDF 123KB)](https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/document-library/documents/tp2023-programme-pdf/download-file/TP2023%20Programme.pdf) | | | |
| 10.4 | Scientific and Technical Training | | | |
|  | **Future Education Events**  Canvassing for topics, please forward any suggestions to JR.  Details of virtual education programme available via <https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/regional-transfusion-committees/virtual-education-sessions> | | | |
| **11.** | **Audits / Standards / Studies** | | | |
| 11.1 | **National Comparative Audits** | | | |
| 11.2 | **Regional Surveys**   * Regional End-to-End IT Group – IT profiling survey   60% response rate - 13 of 22 Trusts.  Results currently being analysed by SW. | | | |
| 11.3 | **Local Audits – for information**   * The use of Tranexamic Acid (Txa) in massive haemorrhage audit      * Night time transfusion audit | | | |
| **12.** | **Reports from RTC groups** | | | |
| 12.1 | Transfusion Practitioners   * Meeting scheduled for 30 March 2023 to be held across Barnsley and Newcastle sites, retaining the option for delegates and speakers to join remotely if required. * Work on the groups SharePoint site is ongoing. | | | |
| 12.2 | Centre Users Groups  **Barnsley –** Teams meeting 22 February 2023. Key points:  Key points:   * Succession planning for chair of the group In process, if anyone is interested, please contact DS. * Presentations on ‘Implementing a New LIMS: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly’ and ‘Pre-Hospital Blood Component Provision via the Air Ambulance.’ * Discussion on topical matters via Trust reports * NHSBT updates. * Unconfirmed minutes     **Newcastle -** Face to face meeting held 15 February 2023.  Key points:   * Presentation from Chantal Morrell on EPR experience in Durham.  Shared learning for those implementing IT systems, going forward. * Discussion around a request from GNAAS to formalise a process that could allow them to "pit stop" for units while travelling to trauma centres.   The regional ‘Procedure for the Transfer of Blood Components Between Hospitals’ is due for review November 2023 so this is an ideal time to look at requirements and incorporate an option for GNAAS to access blood if required.   * Discussion around DARA patients  Newcastle Trust reported they have seen a large increase in the number of patients who are attending and are looking at ways of how to share the extended phenotype and results that have been performed within the local hospitals, to save Newcastle having to send those patients for genotype. * Discussion around the organ perfusion policies that have been implemented across the region, difference in requests across the region for the number of units that were requested for these sort of processes. * Unconfirmed minutes | | | |
| 12.3 | NBTC Laboratory Managers Group  Next meeting 22 March 2023  BT updated the group on an initial meeting with the BSMS team,  Key points:   * The hope is that this will evolve into a working group to discuss usage and stock data, EDI, OBOS, VMI. * Looking at systems that are already in place that could be developed to provide better, more accurate data and how that data could be used in the future. * The Vendor Management Inventory (VMI) system software can be used to transmit usage and stock data back to NHSBT, including information about where stock is held and wastage. The system could potentially be expanded to include clinical reasons for transfusion. BSMS are keen that the VMI system or something similar, is developed and rolled out for all Trusts, enabling good data to be captured. It will also simplify some of the data activities within Trusts. | | | |
| 12.4 | Trauma Network update     * No update | | | |
| 12.5 | End to end transfusion IT group   * Next meeting of the group is on 29 March 2023.   Helen Thom, NHSBT RCI Development Lead – Transfusion 2024, has kindly offered to give an update on the Transfusion 2024 workstreams. | | | |
| **13.** | **A.O.B.** | | | |
|  | * CI asked what suppliers Trusts are using for fibrinogen concentrate   York & Scarborough currently using RiaSTAP.  No other suppliers were mentioned. | | | |
| **14.** | **Date of next meeting** | | | |
|  | * 06 June 2023 | | | |

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| RTC – Action list | | |
| Item No | Action | By Whom |
| 3. | Post confirmed minutes of previous meeting onto JPAC website | JR |
| 3.1 | Scanning of wristbands from other Trusts after patients have been transferred contributing to sample rejection. Contact Julie Staves to ask if there is a SOP for managing this issue that she is willing to share. | RA |
| 9.1 | In preparation for using the new reduced dose contingency platelet component, NHSBT request that hospitals update the LIMs systems with the new product barcodes. | All |