

South East Regional Transfusion Team

Thursday 8 May 2025

Approved Minutes

Present	
Howard Wakeling (HW) Chair	Consultant Anaesthetist, University Hospitals Sussex
Kerry Dowling (KD) Deputy Chair	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, University Hospitals Southampton
Simon Stanworth (SS)	Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT
Zoe Summat (ZS)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, University Hospitals Sussex
Jonathan Ricks (JR)	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, University Hospitals Southampton
Liz Tatam (LT)	Transfusion practitioner, Sussex & Surrey Healthcare Trust
Kim East (KE)	Lead Transfusion Practitioner, BSPS)
Lisa March (LM)	Transfusion Practitioner, East Kent Hospitals
Carol Stenning (CS)	Customer Services Manager, Southampton 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:	
Emma O'Donovan	Ruth O'Donnell
Emily White	Susan Mitchell
Shabana Tufail	Lauren Hamilton

Minutes
Welcome and apologies HW welcomed everyone to the meeting – apologies listed above.
Review SE RTT Minutes: meeting held on 12 February 2025 – the minutes were approved with small amendments within the QS138 Quality Insights Tool section. The minutes to be uploaded to the Website.
Action points/ matters arising: LIMS – shared experiences – KE had sent information to SM Benchmarking Summary on Red Cell usage – more information reference South West data – CS to send FM to circulate ACTION Annual Summary material - completed and published.
NBTC meeting update (held on 24 March 2025) HW had provided notes which had been circulated by e-mail (09/04/2025), The question of “patient document retention” was raised and noted, as mentioned at the RTT meeting in February, but no clarification was given. NCA Audit topics (2026) – the NBTC has asked the RTC Chairs for an order of preference for the following three topics, to be considered for the NCA Audits 2026. HW invited the RTT members to express their choices. The following is the order agreed by those in attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of platelets• Use of plasma components (ffp / cryoprecipitate)• Consent for transfusion

HW to complete the document provided by NBTC with the preferences. **ACTION** – completed after meeting.

SE RTC Budget:

- **SHOT Symposium** – five delegates have had their early bird registration payments made from last year's RTC budget. It is hoped they will provide feedback at a future meeting or education event.
- **Arm's Length Bodies (ALB)** – Following new Government rules – NHSBT and other ALBs are being asked to book Public Sector venues, government buildings, hospital meeting rooms for future face to face meetings. Venue options have been shared, but few within the South East have sufficient capacity. FM is researching venues, with good access, transport links and parking.
- LT has looked at a suitable venue in East Surrey previously used and with good parking.
- KD suggested The Ark, which is located within the Basingstoke Hospital grounds.

The challenge will always be geography, and it maybe each year the venue changes to accommodate the further reaches of this region.

Blood Stocks Update:

DB provided an update on Blood Stocks. An NHSBT Communication was being sent out today - **08 May 2025**

Group O Red Cell Shortage – Amber Alert Continues

Group B D negative shortage – Pre-Amber continues

Stock levels are updated on the website each week day, which can be seen [here](#)

Education Events:

NBTC Education Topic: 3 July 1000 – 1300 Update. *Management of adverse events including PSIRF, human factors and safety* – 273 people have registered to-date.

Unfortunately, one of the presenters has had to pull-out, we are looking for a Human Factors presenter. FM has invited a Consultant from University Hospitals Sussex and is waiting for a response. KD also suggested approaching SHOT.

It was agreed that an RTC Business meeting would be held before the education event – running from 0830 – 0930. **ACTION** FM to circulate the date and invite Hospital updates.

Transfusion Bites – Tuesday 4 November was agreed. Holding date to be sent to the RTC.
ACTION FM

Standing Items:

Workplan 2025: O Neg Report audit – KD updated everyone – the full report from the audit has yet to come out, however, local reports have been distributed to the Trusts. The RTT need to decide how they want to proceed with the audit results. KD suggested looking at local substitution policies, can improvements be made to conserve some of the Group O; can stock holding and time-ex wastage be improved. It was agreed this would be a good subject for the TP/TLM joint meeting which takes place on Tuesday 30 September 1300 - 1530

QS138 Quality Insights Audit: AD provided an update – We are currently in the fifth audit cycle, looking at cases from January to March this year. Tomorrow is the deadline for submissions - see slide attached. The results will be discussed at the TP Meeting (5 June).



QS138 Quality
Insights update May 2

An Abstract has been put together for SHOT – if it is accepted, we will know by mid-May. A questionnaire was sent out last month, asking those registered how they are using the audit tool, where the results are being shared, and whether the results are being used to evidence implementation of national guidance? There was a very positive response to the questionnaire.

Not only can we share our regional experiences, but the National TP network is keen to collaborate. Nationally 153 sites are registered, with four pilot sites from Northern Ireland. Overall, there are more than 11,700 cases audited in the audit tool, and last month the Tool was a recommended resource in the CPOC Anaemia in the Perioperative Pathway guidelines.

Transfusion Transformation/ Infected Blood Inquiry:

There is no update at present. It is hoped everyone has had a chance to look at the IBI report – particularly section 7. KD sits on a number of working groups and updated the members. AD noted that it would be the one-year anniversary of the IBI (20 May), there has been an interim report, and a second part is due later this month.

(Post meeting addition) The government has now published its final response to the Infected Blood Inquiry's May 2024 report (14/05/2025)

[Final Government response to the Infected Blood Inquiry - GOV.UK](#)

TP Meeting (6 March) JR provided an update: the group had discussed - the IBI recommendations, including the retention of documents; QS138 Insights Audit Tool; and the group's Terms of Reference were updated and added to the website.

TLM Meetings (TADG 13 March/ Oxford/Southampton 9 April)

TADG – There was a presentation by the Development Lead (RCI), including e-requesting and how this can be developed in the future; plus, a discussion with a new manager based in the South about staffing challenges in the Labs.

Oxford/Southampton meeting – this was very poorly attended (only four people). The national TLM Group are to look into the reasons for poor attendance, and also what others are doing who have good attendance. A survey is coming out soon.

RTT Terms of Reference – to remain on the agenda, and reviewed after Transfusion Transformation launched

NCA Audits: For information

Published audits

- [2022 Audit of Patient Blood Management in Elective Paediatric Surgery Published](#) (11/02/2025)
- [2022 comparative audit of acute upper gastrointestinal bleeding Published](#) (07/03/2025)
- [QS138 Audit \(2024\) Report Published](#) (31/03/2025)

Audits taking place:

- Massive Haemorrhage audit (starts 1 May 2025)
- Anti-D (midwives) – postponed to 2026

NHSBT Updates:

Patient Blood Management Practitioner (PBMP)

AD highlighted a couple of resources scheduled to be published in the coming months. There are also several leaflets being reviewed; comms will be sent out when they are available.

The April PBM monthly report (circulated 1st May) features an interesting study looking at behaviours around the use or none-use of TXA.

The BTEDG on 28 May (flyer e-mailed 14/05/2025) - entitled: Incorrect (ABO incompatible) blood component transfusion: sharing the findings of a significant adverse event review.

(see attached for more information)



PBM Update May
2025.pptx

Customer Service Managers (CSMs)

DB highlighted the following: The team is currently advertising for a new manager within the Projects and Customer Insights team.

RCI Assist has been postponed

The 2025-2026 Pricelist has been released; and the 2025 – 2028 contracts have been sent out to the Hospital contacts.

Southampton update within the presentation attached - there is a new Hospital Services Manager; Phase Three project commenced back in February. Thank you for ongoing understanding and patience.



CSM update SE RTT
May 2025.pptx

AOB:

two Guidelines have been updated – please check any policies that might include a link
[CPoC Guidelines](#) – for the Management of Anaemia in the Perioperative Pathway – updated (April 2025)

[BSH Guidelines](#) - for the investigation and management of red cell antibodies in pregnancy - updated (February 2025)

BMS Study Day – KD to talk to her team to find possible dates for an event this year – date to be given to FM. **ACTION**

Next RTT Meeting: Tuesday 9 September 2025

(TP/TLM join meeting – Tuesday 30 September 2025)