

**South West Transfusion Practitioners Meeting**  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**  
**Oake Manor Golf Club, Taunton**

Sponsorship of meeting kindly provided by the [South West Regional Transfusion Committee](#)

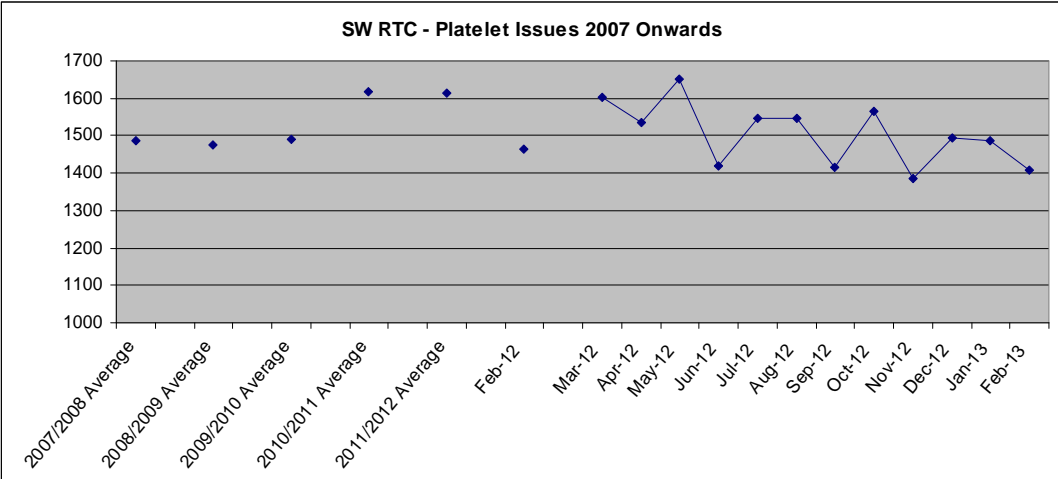
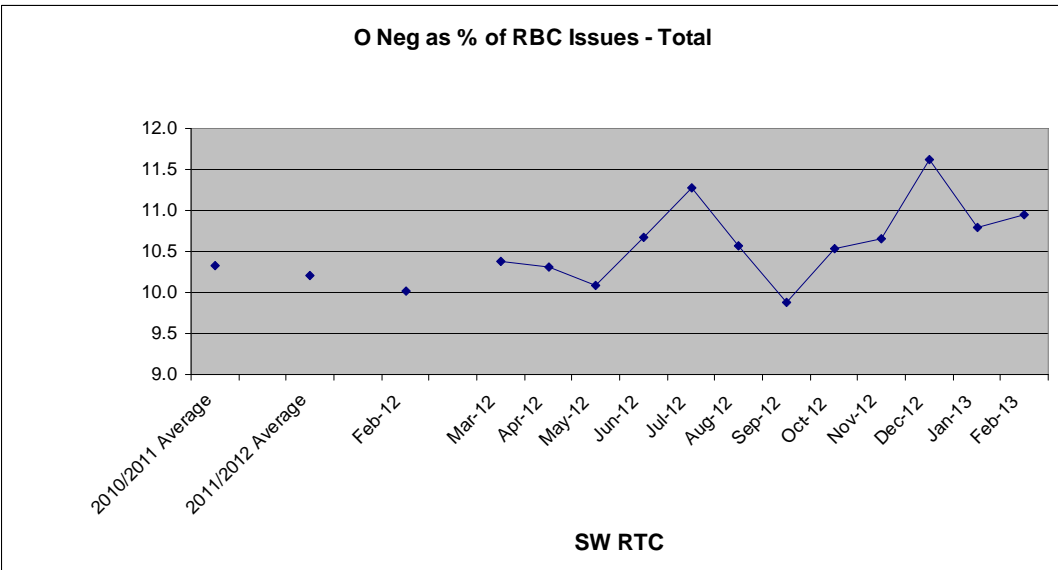
<u><b>Attendees</b></u>	<u><b>Apologies</b></u>
<p><b>Alison Western</b>, Taunton (Chair)  <b>Caroline Blake</b>, Dorchester  <b>Claire Husain</b>, UKSH Bristol  <b>Kathleen Wedgeworth</b>, Barnstaple  <b>Alison Rundle</b>, PCH  <b>Biddy Ridler</b>, Exeter  <b>Louise Jefferies</b>, Weston  <b>John Faulds</b>, Truro.  <b>Julie Ryder</b>, Swindon  <b>Sally Caldwell</b>, Swindon  <b>Caroline Lowe</b>, Plymouth  <b>Georgina Vincencova</b>, Plymouth  <b>Debbie Thomas</b>, Truro  <b>Nicki Jannaway</b>, Truro  <b>Debbie Davey</b>, BMI Bath  <b>Alison Hill</b>, Yeovil  <b>Peter Thompson</b>, NHSBT  <b>Alister Jones</b>, NHSBT.</p> <p><u><b>External Speakers</b></u></p> <p><b>Dr Tom Latham</b> (NHSBT/ UHB))  <b>Shan Edwards</b> (Royal Devon &amp; Exeter NHSFT)</p>	<p>Julia Pinder, Torbay  Emma Chambers, North Bristol  Susan Scott, Bath  Carol McGovern, Truro.  Lesley Jones, North Bristol.  Helen Maria, Bath  Anna Gillard, Nuffield Health, Exeter.  Mary White, Nuffield health, Cheltenham.  Victoria Fisher, SPIRE Healthcare, Bristol.  Norjin Pejicic, Circle, Bath.  Rob McGowan, Cheltenham and Gloucester.  Julie Dickens, Prospect Hospice, Swindon.  Clare Thompson, Poole  Anne Maratty, Salisbury  Veronica Sansom, Exeter  Jaime Denham, Somerset Partnership</p>

1.	Introduction & apologies, minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and conducting a round of introductions.</li> <li>All actions from the last meeting on 26 04 12 have been completed.</li> </ul>	
2.	TP 'Open floor' session	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Biddy Ridler</b> discussed a 'Student Selected Unit (SSU)' transfusion module for medical students, called 'Life blood – the work of the HTT' that has been developed in Exeter by the HTT. Year 3 students (usually about 3) are totally embedded in the HTT and it's activity for 2 weeks. There is an essay assessment of experience learned at the end of the unit. HTT must commit to: set learning time, marking the essay, making a professional judgement on the student. (Copy of presentation distributed via e-mail with these minutes).</li> <li><b>Debbie Thomas</b> discussed the benefits of single nurse checking of blood components (brought in at Truro 10 years ago), and her experiences in implementing this. Initial resistance from nurses that preferred 2 checkers because there was felt to be 'shared' blame if an error occurred. Deb highlighted an issue with documentation still having a 'checked by' section for 5 years after introduction, as well as ongoing resistance to this from Anaesthetists. However the change has proved safer as nurses don't need to go away from the bedside to find a second checker, and many staff now state they would rather just do it on their own. RCH Truro still have two nurse checking in paediatrics, but wish to move to single nurse checking here too.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alison Western</b> outlined an initiative in Taunton to reduce inappropriate blood transfusions in an acute medical setting. This started with an audit of GP admissions to the Medical Assessment Unit of patients with anaemia: 50% of cases reviewed had anaemia that could have been corrected by IV iron. The plan is to increase education of MAU Drs around this issue, promote early identification of Iron Deficiency Anaemia (use of quick turnaround ferritin tests, automatically test for ferritin in certain circumstances), use of Ferinject, and encourage GPs to refer direct to the TP for IV Iron (as a day case). TP will prescribe the IV Iron (a PGD is being drawn up for this). AH asked if oral iron was considered as first line treatment – AW said this was completely discounted due to poor compliance (which just delays effective management). (Copy of presentation distributed via e-mail with these minutes)</li> <li>• <b>Kathleen Wedgeworth presented</b> the results of a recent audit of overnight transfusions in North Devon. Most were on ICU or Medical Admission Unit, and most were medical patients (a previous audit of this has a higher number of orthopaedic overnight transfusions – this is seen as an improvement). Only 4 out of the 43 transfusions could have waited. Recommendations were to continue to: discourage overnight transfusions, encourage nurses to question them, but ensure lab. staff do continue to issue blood for overnight transfusions. There was discussion around nurses over-zealously enforcing this policy when transfusion was genuinely required. (Copy of presentation distributed via e-mail with these minutes)</li> <li>• <b>Criminal Transfusion Investigation</b>, a DVD produced by TPs in the East Midlands addressing safety issues surrounding the administration of blood, was played to the meeting and comment invited. Various comments were noted for feedback to the East Midlands group in due course.</li> </ul>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Drugs and blood – Shan Edwards</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shan gave a very informative presentation concerning 'Drugs and Blood' ((Copy of presentation distributed via e-mail with these minutes).</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Fetal DNA typing from maternal blood – Dr Tom Latham</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Tom Latham presented on this topic. (Copy of presentation distributed via e-mail with these minutes).</li> </ul>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>TLN report – Peter Thompson</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the report is attached (Paper A).</li> <li>• The regional issues figures for blood components 2012/2013 were discussed in turn</li> <li>• The group were congratulated for playing their part in another good performance by the region, especially with regard to platelet use.</li> <li>• The main focus for discussion was the continuing upward trend in O neg issues, and the overall downward trend in red cell issues.</li> <li>• The increase in Cryo issues was also discussed.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>SWRTC Education Subgroup report – Alister Jones</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A ppt. on Blood Fridge Management is now accessible on the SWRTC website</li> <li>• A ppt. on basics of Blood Group Serology is now available on request (file is too big to go on the SWRTC website). It was asked if it could be sent around the TP group by direct email – AJ to do this.</li> <li>• Recent Midwives study day event was well received again – good attendance (51 delegates).</li> <li>• Next event being planned is for lab. staff / BMSs</li> <li>• Plans for future events on anaemia management, and PBM</li> <li>• There is now a Consent course of learnbloodtransfusion, and the Safe Transfusion Practice in the Lab. course has been redeveloped in to a 6 unit course - due for release soon.</li> </ul>	<b>AJ</b>

<b>7.</b>	<b>UK Cell Salvage Action Group report – Biddy Ridler / John Faulds</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report attached (Paper B).</li> <li>John Faulds advised the group that he has some free consumables which may be supplied to hospital using the Electa ICS machines. Please contact John for more details if interested.</li> <li>It was re-iterated that an ICS Quality Control technical fact sheet is now needed.</li> <li>Biddy Ridler encouraged ongoing support and promotion re: reporting of ICS incidents to SHOT</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Group discussion of any recent SHOT/SABRE/Near Miss incidents</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various incidents and errors from across the region were discussed, including patient identity errors, in appropriate neonatal transfusion, and a suspected serious transfusion reaction in a neonate.</li> </ul>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Any other business (including date of next meeting and Chair)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alison Western is keen to complete a course in nurse authorisation of blood in readiness for running a transfusion clinic starting in June, and asked the group if they knew of such a course. Peter Thompson agreed to send Alison (and also Alison Hill) any information he had that may possibly help to do the necessary training 'in house'. If other group members want the information, please contact Peter.</li> <li>Kathleen Wedgeworth reminded the group about the national TP meeting / BBTS HoT SIG meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> May in Birmingham. Flyers have already been circulated via the Weekly Bulletin.</li> <li>Alister Jones asked for a volunteer to Chair the next SWTP meeting, which will probably be scheduled for early July. He also asked for ideas for the content of future meetings.</li> </ul> <p><b>[Post meeting note:</b> the next SWTP meeting will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July at Oake Manor. Chair: Grace Eccles, Swindon.]</p>	<p><b>PT</b></p> <p><b>AJ</b></p>

**South West Transfusion Practitioners Group meeting,  
Thursday 21 March 2013: NHSBT Transfusion Liaison Nurse Update.**

<p><b>Platelets</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the SW the hard work has paid off - following the 2010 NCA of platelet use in haematology, and the SWRTC platelet use survey, platelet issues decreased by 0.4% from 2010/11 to 2011/12 and then by 2.8% in 2012/13 year to date; this compares with national increases of 8.3% and 1.8%. <b>WELL DONE ALL!</b></li> <li>• The full SWRTC platelet use survey report is now accessible at: <a href="http://www.transfusinguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=RTC&amp;Section=28&amp;pageid=1085">www.transfusinguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=RTC&amp;Section=28&amp;pageid=1085</a></li> </ul> <p>Resources to support education around the appropriate use of platelets are available to download at: <a href="http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/platelet_education_resources/index.asp">http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/platelet_education_resources/index.asp</a></p> 
<p><b>ORhD negative blood</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NBTC target of fewer than 10.5% of O neg issues as a proportion of red cell use continues. The SW is struggling to meet this target at present. <b>Any thoughts why?</b></li> <li>• Whilst current O Neg stocks are relatively healthy, this situation can change rapidly.</li> <li>• The SWRTC O-neg. survey showed hospitals needed to keep less O-neg. when emergency units were returned to stock with 10+ days shelf life.</li> <li>• Resources to support education around the appropriate use of O-neg. are available to download at: <a href="http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/o_rhd_negative_educational_resources/index.asp">http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/o_rhd_negative_educational_resources/index.asp</a></li> </ul> 
<p><b>Red cells</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red cell issues continue to show a marked fall, especially since July 2012. Again – <b>any thoughts on why this might be?</b> (Issues graph on next page)</li> </ul>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SW RTC RBC Issues 2007 Onwards</b></p> <p>2007/2008 Average 2008/2009 Average 2009/2010 Average 2010/2011 Average 2011/2012 Average Feb-12 Mar-12 Apr-12 May-12 Jun-12 Jul-12 Aug-12 Sep-12 Oct-12 Nov-12 Dec-12 Jan-13 Feb-13</p>
<b>FFP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After an early spike, FFP issues show a downwards trend following last year's 5.7% increase. Cryoprecipitate issues have risen however. <b>Your thoughts on this?</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SW RTC - FFP Issues 2007 Onwards</b></p> <p>2007/2008 Average 2008/2009 Average 2009/2010 Average 2010/2011 Average 2011/2012 Average Feb-12 Mar-12 Apr-12 May-12 Jun-12 Jul-12 Aug-12 Sep-12 Oct-12 Nov-12 Dec-12 Jan-13 Feb-13</p>
<b>Regional Meetings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>9<sup>th</sup> May 2013:</b> South West RTC meeting, Oake Manor, Taunton</li> </ul>
<b>National /International meetings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April 2013:</b> BGS (Blood Group Serology) Reading, Bradfield College, Reading: <a href="http://www.bgsreading.org">www.bgsreading.org</a></li> <li><b>18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 2013:</b> Network for the Advancement of Transfusion Alternatives (NATA) 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium, Vienna, Austria: <a href="http://www.nataonline.com/">www.nataonline.com/</a></li> <li><b>14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013:</b> BBTS HoTSIG Education Day/National TP meeting, Crown Plaza Hotel, Birmingham – Targeting Good Transfusion Practice <a href="https://www.bbts.org.uk/events">https://www.bbts.org.uk/events</a></li> <li><b>10<sup>th</sup> July 2013:</b> SHOT annual meeting, Royal Society of Medicine, London <a href="http://www.shotuk.org">www.shotuk.org</a></li> </ul>

**For further information please contact:**

Peter Thompson TLN (Plymouth), 01752 617824 [peter.thompson@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.thompson@nhsbt.nhs.uk) (until 24.05.13)  
 Alister Jones TLN (Filton), 0117 921 7498 [alister.jones@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:alister.jones@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

**Useful links:**

RTC website:

<http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk/index.asp?Publication=RTC&Section=28&pageid=1062>

NHSBT Hospital Liaison monthly 'Update':

<http://hospital.blood.co.uk/>

## Paper B



**For the SWTP meeting 21.3.13**

**Update from the UK Cell Salvage Group (UKCSAG)**

Biddy Ridler 19.3.13

(Please note: The information below is sourced from the UKCSAG telecon/meeting minutes.  
BR was away. Next meeting 20.6.13 Birmingham)

### **Intraoperative cell salvage QC pilot (Lead: John Faulds)**

- Paper finalised
- For posting on the UKCSAG website
- ? technical factsheet

### **Cell salvage database (Audit Lead: Biddy Ridler)**

New proposal for a Patient Blood Management (PBM) database incorporating cell salvage activity and other appropriate use measures. SHOT support this. The National Commissioning Group have been approached to help support PBM.

**In the meantime – are you recording all your cell salvage cases?**

### **Reinfusion bag green labels**

ID label must be attached to each reinfusion bag. Further supplies from device supplier.

### **Learn Cell Salvage e-learning package**

On UKCSAG website

### **Training**

Some hospitals having problems completing this. (OK for Exeter – we do 1:1 training)

Possible strategy – shadowing in other Trusts?

### **Appropriate use of cell salvage**

Possible study

### **BBTS ASM October**

Masterclass on cell salvage planned

### **People:**

**Haemonetics** – ‘Restructuring’ – loss of key people, especially Juliette New

**RD&E** - Theatres Blood Conservation Coordinator/Band 6 post coming soon!

**Please visit the UKCSAG website for all information about cell salvage:**

<http://www.transfusionguidelines.org/index.aspx?Publication=BBT&Section=22&pageid=7508>