

South East Coast Regional Transfusion Team Meeting

By Telecon

Tuesday 31 March 2020

Approved Minutes

	<p>Present:</p> <p>Howard Wakeling (HW) RTC Chair Consultant Anaesthetist, Western Sussex Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>Jeyakumar Visuvanathan (JV) Blood Transfusion Site Lead Roya Surrey County Hospital, Berkshire & Surrey Pathology Services</p> <p>Ruth O'Donnell (RO'D) Transfusion Practitioner, Western Sussex Hospitals NHS FT</p> <p>Liz Tatam (LT) Transfusion Practitioner, Sussex and Surrey Healthcare Trust</p> <p>Lisa March (LM) Transfusion Practitioner, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother Hospital</p> <p>Anwen Davies (AD) Patient Blood Management Practitioner, NHSBT</p> <p>Frances Moll (FM) SEC RTC Administrator NHSBT</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Emma O'Donovan, Consultant Haematologist, East Surrey Hospital</p> <p>Zoe Sammut, Laboratory Manager, Western Sussex Hospital NHS FT</p> <p>Simon Rang, Consultant Anaesthetist, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother Hospital</p> <p>Fatts Chowdhury, Consultant Haematologist in Transfusion Medicine, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust/ NHSBT</p> <p>Nelson Johnson, Blood Transfusion Site Lead, Berkshire and Surrey Pathology Services</p> <p>Richard Whitmore, Customer Services Manager, NHSBT</p>
1.	<p>HW Welcomed everyone to this shortened meeting.</p> <p>This was Jey Visuvanathan's last meeting. HW thanked him for his contribution and support to the RTT, with particular reference to the successful Education Day held at Ashford Hospital (Surrey) in February. HW to send a note of thanks.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 10 December 2019.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as being a true record. To be made available on the JPAC website.</p> <p>ACTION FM</p> <p>Action points and any matters arising would be discussed at the next full meeting.</p>
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Blood Transfusion Committee Update – RTC Chair and NBTC meetings were held on 30/03/2020 as a ZOOM virtual event with a shortened agenda. HW updated members on the discussions, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A simplified process for awarding CPD points has been introduced by the Royal College of Anaesthetists for education events. Requests can be submitted through a regional adviser. - Some regions had been discussing the use of Rivaroxaban reversal drugs, the prevalence of use within SEC was unknown - HW has been invited to write an article 6-800 words on Harvey's Gang, for potential publication. HW would get in touch with former RTT member MR for background information. - Red Blood cell stocks were still strong, demand was decreasing; however, everyone was being asked to consider usage. This could include encouraging the use of tranexamic acid; cell salvage; promotion of upcoming updated NBTC guidance and triage tool during massive haemorrhage activations; and encouragement of laboratory staff empowerment to discuss/refer blood requests. • Budget Update – Costs for the RTC Education events were covered by this year's budget. Awaiting confirmation of budget for 2020/21.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTT Membership – This was JV's last meeting due to a move out of region. Thanks given to JV for his contribution to the SEC RTT, and best wishes for the future. JV will remain as Chair of the TADG, and agreed to raise the SEC RTT TLM vacancy at the next meeting. The RTT needs another TLM for inclusion later in the year. Everyone agreed to consider possible candidates. ACTION ALL
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTC Work Plan – there are no additions at present to the work plan, this will be reviewed at the next RTT meeting. • RTC Education Symposium 26 Feb 2020 'Trials in Transfusion, from Uterus to University' was held at Ashford Hospital's Education Centre, Surrey. There were 60 attendees, the feedback had been very positive. The case studies generated good discussion and there was greater interactivity across the day. Full feedback to be reviewed at next RTT meeting. Presentations, where permission has been granted, will be uploaded on to the JPAC website. ACTION FM • Future Events – the Joint SC/SEC Education event was in the planning. The proposed date is likely to be the first Wednesday in October (7th), venue has yet to be agreed. All to hold as a potential date. ACTION ALL
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHSBT Update- RW had shared a presentation in advance of the meeting, key points were raised by AD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NHSBT plans to maintain all the services that it can - Blood demand from Hospitals has dropped, donor attendance at NHSBT has dropped. As a result, NHSBT is maintaining our daily stock levels - Currently we are maintaining availability of blood products and can meet demand, there are concerns about particular components but we should, at the moment, meet your requests - NHSBT has a specific link on the Webpage for Covid-19, please review this regularly. Stock levels are being updated daily. The figures today (31st March) reflect number of days stock under 'normal' demand, but with the cancellation of operations etc., the figures, from tomorrow (April 1st) would reflect adjusted demand. This page also includes advice on frequently asked questions from the NBTC Transfusion Laboratory Manager Working group https://hospital.blood.co.uk/business-continuity/coronavirus-covid-19/ - Please ensure your blood resilience plans are up-to-date and ready they may be required. The updated NBTC Red Cell Shortage plan (March 2020) is available here: https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/national-blood-transfusion-committee/responses-and-recommendations • TPG Update – 13 March 2020. There had been a brief telecon meeting for the TPs. Actions were reviewed. • TADG Update – 13 February 2020. No update was available.
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID - 19/Blood Supply/NBTC – see also NHSBT Update. HW invited members to put forward their views on the circulated draft NBTC Transfusion Triage Tool - <i>guidance and triage tool for the rationing of blood for massively bleeding patients during a severe national blood shortage</i>. Members discussed the make-up of the Clinical Triage teams, and recognised the need for staffing in these teams to come from different disciplines. Planning and guidance was essential in these unprecedented times. Post meeting note. The finalised guidance is now available here: https://www.transfusionguidelines.org/uk-transfusion-committees/national-blood-transfusion-committee/responses-and-recommendations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future meetings - Options for future meetings to be considered, this could include using Zoom or Microsoft Teams. FM to investigate. ACTION FM
7.	<p>Next Telecon: Thursday 2 July</p> <p>2020 dates: Thursday 1 October, Thursday 3 December</p>