



BETTER BLOOD TRANSFUSION INITIATIVES AN OVERVIEW

Megan Rowley

Consultant Haematologist NHSBT and St Mary's, ICHNT

Clinical Lead, National Comparative Audit of Blood Transfusion

IN THE BEGINNING – what were the drivers for BBT?

- increased demand for blood
- decreased number of donors
- waiting list initiative
- increased cost (safety initiatives)
- SHOT findings/recommendations
- Possible new risks including vCJD
- clinical governance, culture change in NHS
- media attention, patient interest



Health Service Circulars
1998, 2002, 2007

Better Blood Transfusion
Seminars

BBT Toolkit
transfusionguidelines.org.uk

Transfusion Liaison
Nurses / NHSBT BBT team

NHSBT
Appropriate
Use of
Blood
Group

BBT - What has been achieved?

- Team working at national, regional and local levels
- Blood transfusion induction and awareness training for all those involved in the blood transfusion process
- Engagement with Trust managers – governance, risk, nursing, finance and a higher profile within Trusts.
- Policies for the blood transfusion process, guidelines for appropriate use and audits to monitor compliance
- Incident reporting and investigation – learning lessons, quality improvements

National Transfusion Committee	NHSBT Patients Clinical Team
Regional Transfusion Committee	Regional Transfusion Team
Hospital Transfusion Committee	Hospital Transfusion Team

Blood transfusion is safer

Not just BBT but initiatives from:

- National Patient Safety Agency
- Serious Hazards of Transfusion
- Audit of bedside practice, fridge collection, sampling and labelling

Regulation and inspection of clinical areas by:

- NHS Litigation Authority ,
- Care Quality Commission

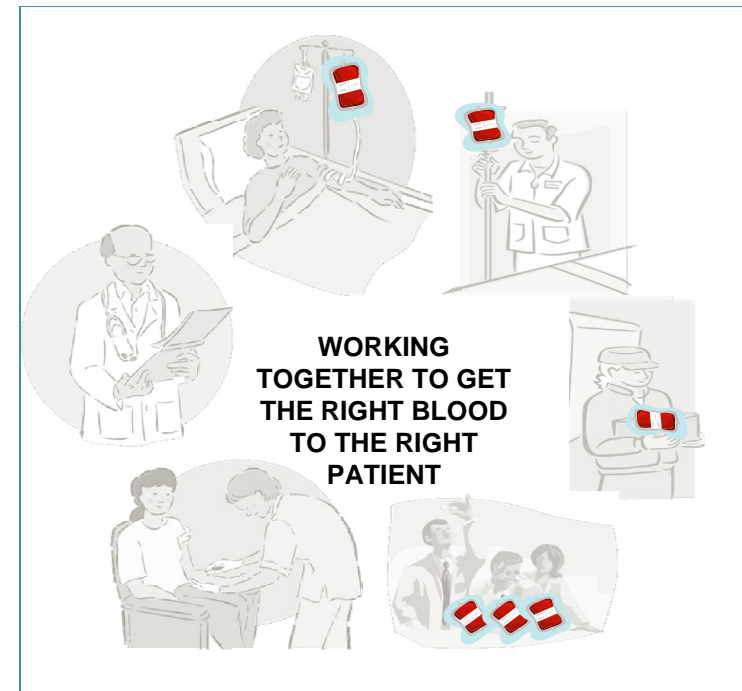
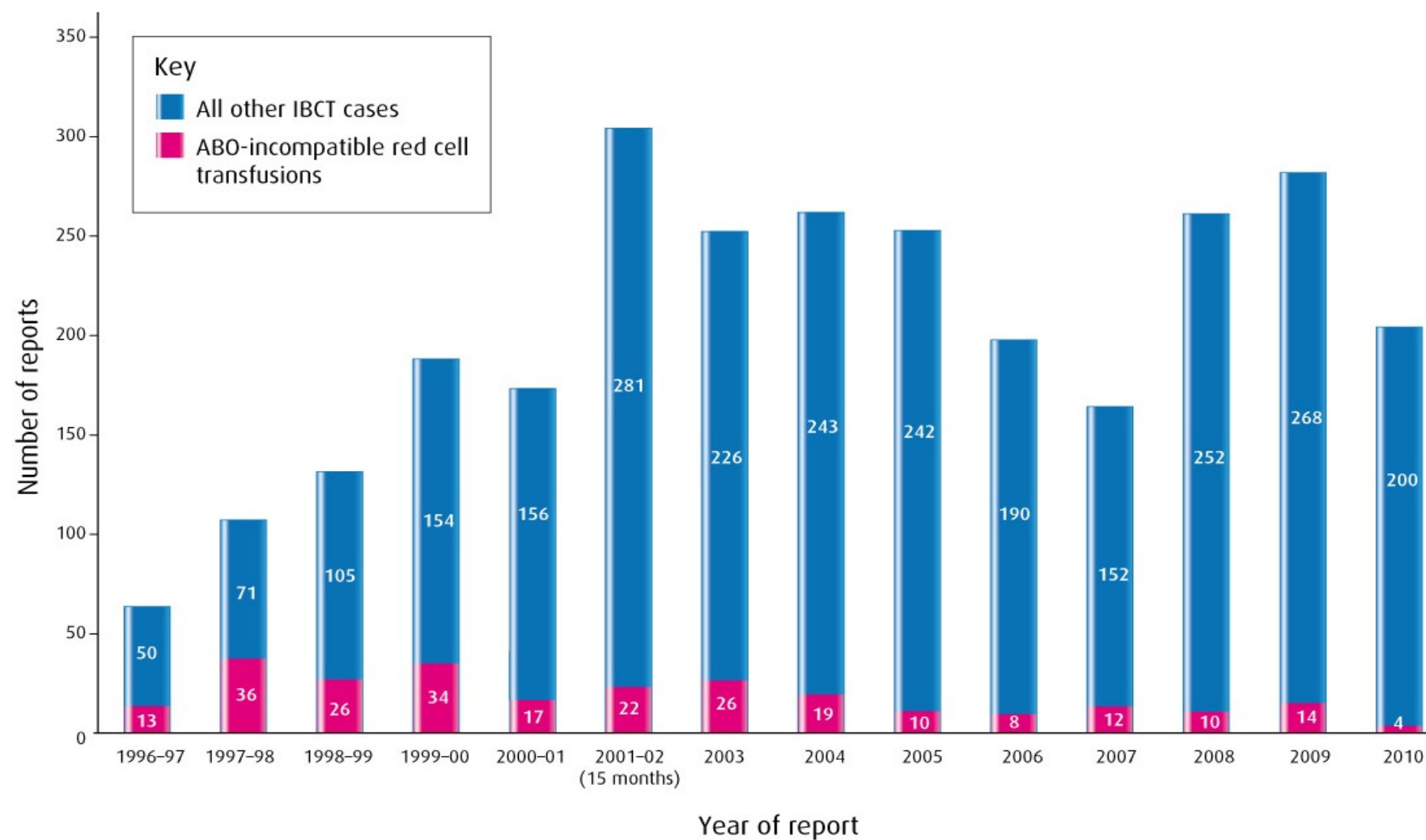
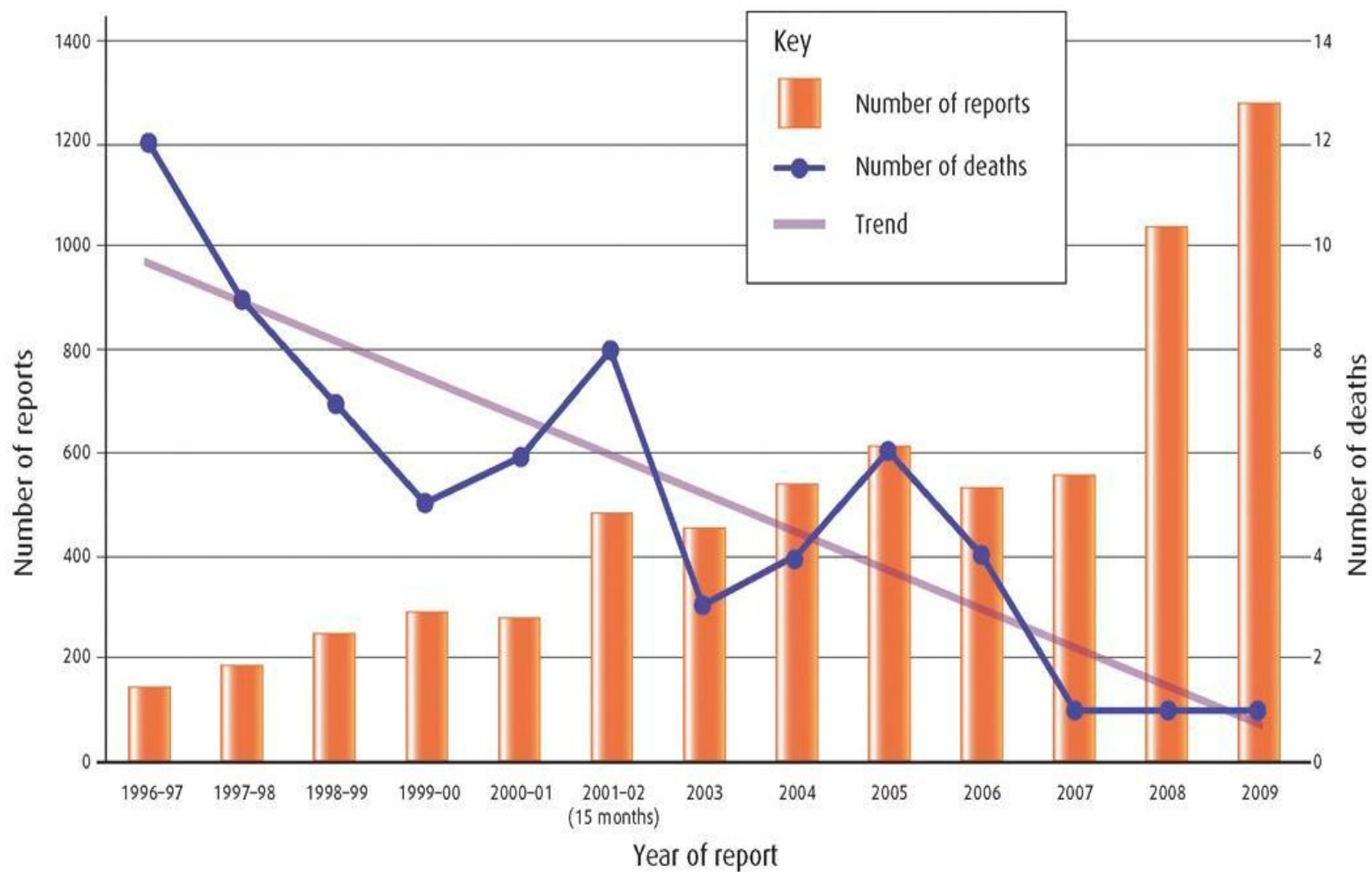


Figure 4
IBCT cases 1996–2010 showing ABO-incompatible red cell transfusions



Total reports and total deaths definitely due to transfusion 1996 - 2009



Surveys of BBT implementation

% of Trusts with a	2001	2003	2004	2006	2008	2010
Hospital Transfusion Committee	91	98	99	97	97	94
Transfusion Practitioner	14	50	68	96	96	99
Transfusion Consultant	-	-	-	48	56	69

Is the team in place?

Is there enough time?

Do the meetings actually take place?

Surveys of BBT implementation

The challenges for hospitals are:

- Patient safety
 - Fewer, ideally zero, errors
- Effective use of blood
 - Less inappropriate use = ?% reduction in use
- Robust audit trail and documentation
 - 100% traceability
- Rapid availability
 - An under-recognised issue
- Good blood stock management and low wastage
 - still much more to do

Resources

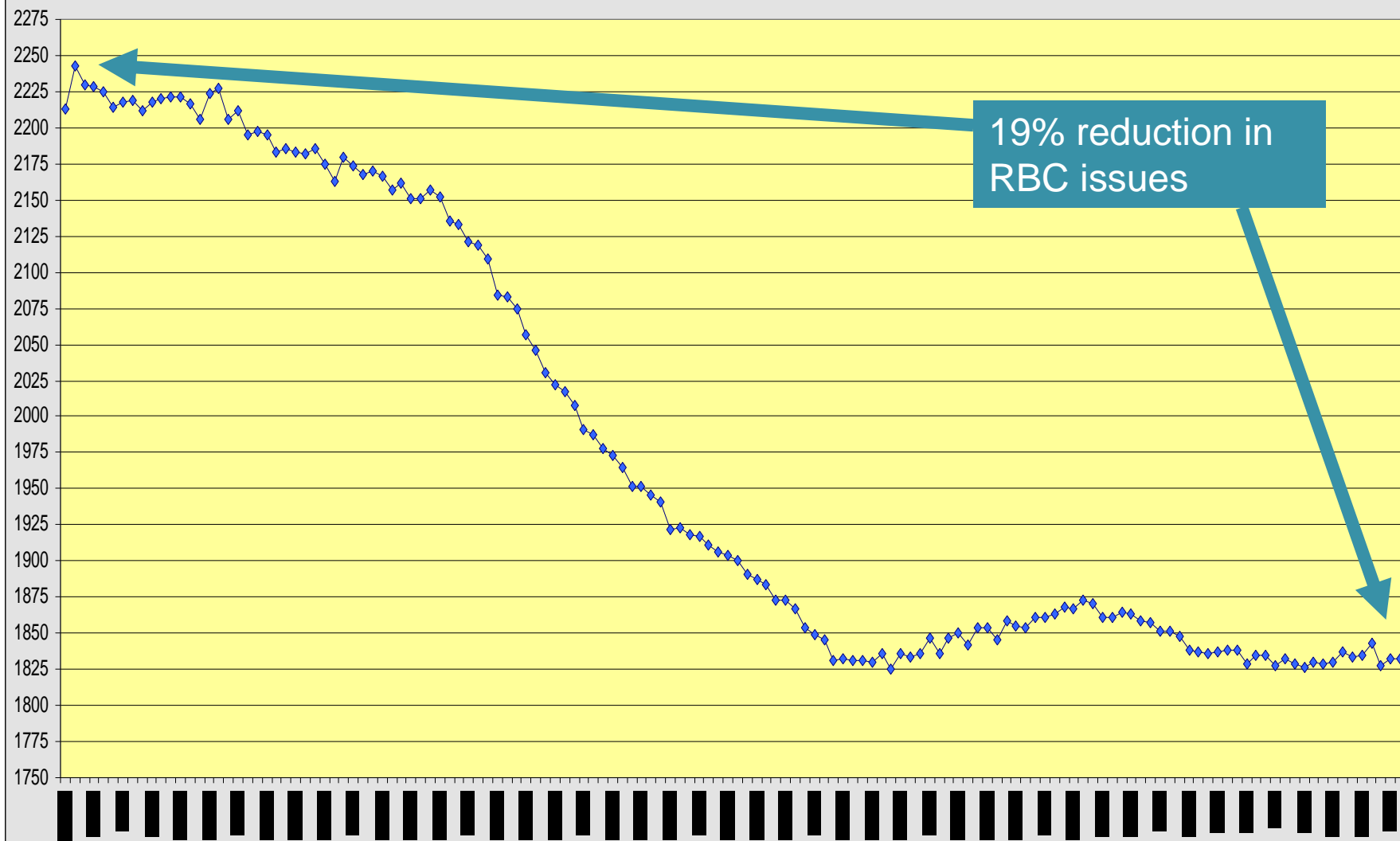
Staff

Time

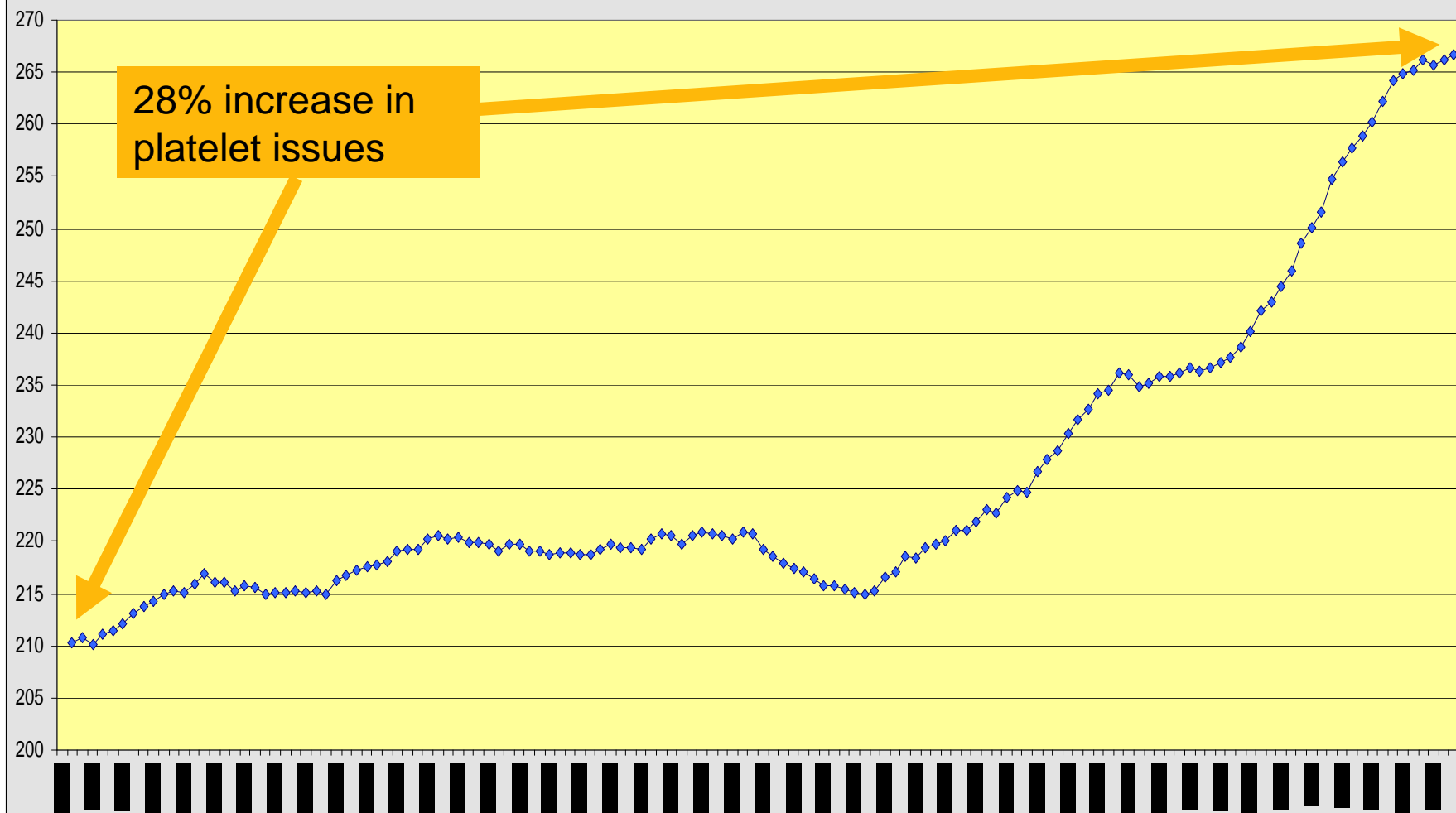
Equipment

Engagement

Red cell issues from NHSBT March 2000 - July 2012



Platelet issues from NHSBT March 2001 - July 2012



Summary of inappropriate use from large regional and national audits of blood use

Audit	Year	Hospitals	Cases	Inappropriate use	Standards
Red cell transfusion	2002	13 (100%) NI hospitals	360	19% inappropriate transfusion 29% over transfused	BCSH 2001
Red cells in hip surgery	2007	139/167 (83%)	7465	48% of transfusions	BOA (2005)
Upper GI bleeding	2007	217/257 (84%)	6750	15% of red cell transfusions 42% of platelets and 27% of FFP	BSG (2002)
Red cell transfusion	2008	26/56 (46%) in two RTCs	1113	19.5% of transfusions	BCSH (2001)
Fresh Frozen Plasma	2009	186/248 (75%)	5023	43% of transfusions in adults, 48% to children and 62% to infants	BCSH (2004)
Platelets in haematology patients	2011	139/153 (91%)	3296	27% of transfusions	BCSH (2003)
Cryoprecipitate	2012	43/82 (52%) in three RTCs	449	25% of transfusions	BCSH (2004)

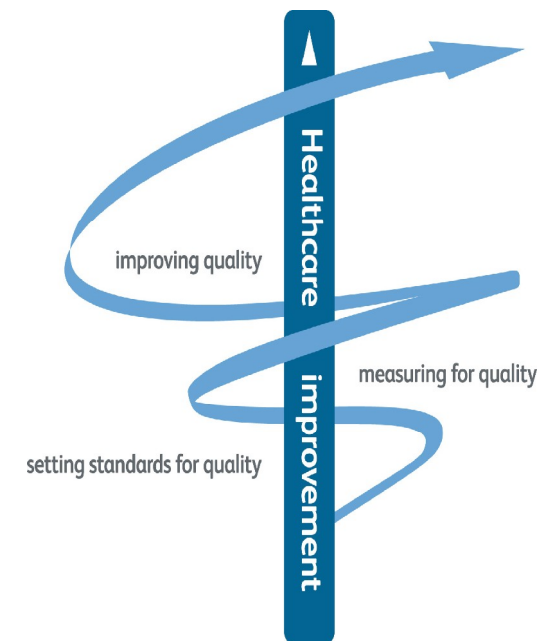
National Comparative Audit of Blood Transfusion

Clinical audit measures quality

- We need to know what we are doing so that we can work out how to improve
- We can use existing transfusion networks to measure transfusion practice in hospitals against standards taken from national guidelines
- Understanding reasons for variation and learning from best practice leads to improvement in quality of care to patients

NCABT is a joint programme between NHSBT and Royal College of Physicians Clinical Effectiveness and Evaluation Unit (CEEU) and covers transfusion practice in the UK

“The Quality Spiral”



BBT – where are we now?

BETTER, but still room for improvement

- Audits show inappropriate use of red cells (15-20%), platelets and plasma (20-30%)
- Low uptake of methods to avoid the use of blood
- Safety of hospital transfusion still an issue
- Poor education and training in some groups
- Lack of patient involvement
- Evidence base getting stronger but still more research is needed
- Poor information technology for blood safety and for providing data on blood usage

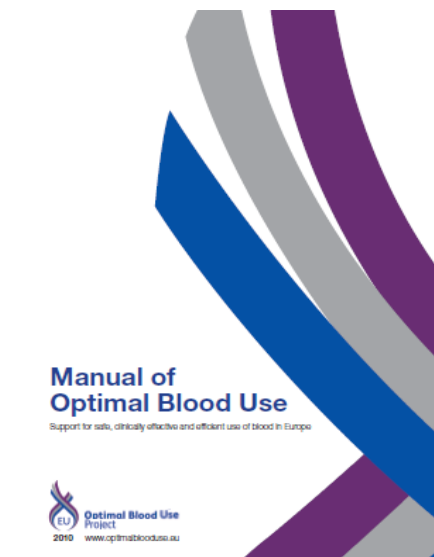
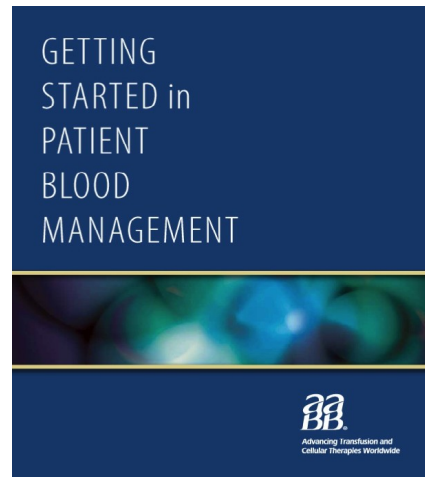
'Patient Blood Management'

Meeting at RCPATH 18th June 2012

Based on work done by US, Australian and European groups

"Patient blood management (PBM) is a new standard of care in medicine and surgery to manage and conserve a patient's own blood, reducing reliance on the donor blood supply"

- Reduce blood loss through phlebotomy
- Optimise Hb prior to surgery
- Minimise perioperative blood loss (TEG etc)
- Use Intra Operative Cell Salvage (IOCS)
- Ensure evidence based decisions about blood transfusion



Better Blood Transfusion

- Has really made a difference to patients, transfusion teams and clinicians that prescribe and administer blood
- Time to move to new initiative that builds on BBT with the aim of developing a framework to support hospitals to deliver 'patient blood management'