

**Confirmed Minutes of the
London Regional Transfusion Committee
London RTC Business Meeting
held on 26th May 2022
via Microsoft Teams**

Present: The attendance list is below



Attendance List.pdf

01/22 Welcomes and Introductions

PK welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the new London PBMPs – Tracy Johnston who has replaced Kate Maynard, and Sasha Wilson who is covering Selma's maternity leave.

Minutes of Last Meeting (10 November 2021)

The minutes were accepted as a true record. If you have any amendments after this meeting, please contact AP. AP to arrange for the minutes to be uploaded to the JPAC website.

02/22 Regional Transfusion Committee Updates

NBTC & RTC Chairs Meetings Feedback

PK reported that the NBTC meeting was dominated by the embedding of the Transfusion 2024 project. The RTC Chairs' meeting focused on the changes to the regions and the impact Covid has had on the way we communicate and meet. Virtual meetings have been beneficial because attendance is much higher, whereas we previously struggled to motivate staff to attend, but there remains a desire to meet and interact F2F again. PK said we need to promote what we do and encourage more people into the RTC.

PK stated that there has been some progress nationally on motivating A level students to study science and take up a career in laboratory science.

RTC Working Groups Update / 6 Month Plan

LoPAG: Ursula Wood has taken over as Chair. They held their first education event since the pandemic earlier this month. Feedback has been very good and they plan to have another one next year. They have published their first educational newsletter for the year and the next one is almost finalised. New members have joined. The group is looking for ideas on what they can work on next year. If you would like to join the group, please contact AP.

TADG: RW gave the update. They met in April, but attendance was not as high as previous meetings. They would like the next meeting to be F2F. Topics discussed: new H&I and RCI forms, providing increment data for HLA matched platelets not happening as well as it should, giving NHSBT enough notice for platelet orders. PK asked what is causing the drop in attendance at meetings. RW said it is due to the pandemic, labs are very busy, difficult to attend meetings, difficult to recruit BMS'.

RW pointed out that the working groups need a proactive Chair to move them forward as NHSBT can only provide so much support, but it is a lot of work for the Chair. TADG will be looking for a new Chair in the near future.

TP Group: Denise McKeown had connectivity issues, so she sent the following slide to show to the group

TP Meeting updates – 17th May

Blood Transfusion passport

- Met with colleagues from London Transformation and Learning Collaborative Team who developed the digital skills passport. Provided a comprehensive overview of the process.
- Alternative pathway is CATQR App - A simple, intuitive paperless solution that helps you accurately track attendance, hassle-free from start to finish. Developer to present at TP group at next meeting.

Patient Information group: Monique Chituku (WMH) updated group on developments and noted that they are eager to recruit another TP to the working group. Sasha and Tracy to reach out to other regions for a volunteer

Pre registration nurses and blood administration: Talk given by Caroline Foley Pre-registration nursing & CapitalNurse Lead - Northwick Park Hospital. Food for thought as the approach is varied across the different Trusts.

IT/WBIT survey Proforma : Profiling Information Technology Systems in London Hospitals. The aim of this survey was to help us:

- Ascertain the status of the IT systems, in particular vein to vein electronic systems in Trusts across London.
- Ascertain if the use of electronic labelling systems has had an impact on WBITs reported.

Denise and Dharshana presented an overview on initial analysis of the data.

TJ confirmed that they did put out a request to other regions for volunteers to join the Patient Information Group and volunteers have come forward. A WBIT audit was carried out in another region and we should be able to use their audit tool in London. Also, we will engage with the National TP Network regarding the role of student nurses in administration.

03/22 NHSBT Update

Slides for the Customer Service, PBM, BSMS and BMSEDG Updates are combined in the document below:



Presentations from
Business Meeting.ppt

Customer Service Update – RW gave the update

- Blood stock levels – low levels of A pos, O pos and D neg is worrying and we are struggling to meet demand for platelets. FC feels that increased activity across the country (which we could not predict because of Covid), and PH's has affected stock levels. JC stated that we have been so focused on encouraging O neg and B neg donors to donate, that the walk-ins for O pos and A pos donors have been cut. DJ reported that there is a month on month 10% increase in units being issued in his hospital. He wondered whether hospitals are aware of utilising the cross-group compatibility of platelets to their full capacity to reduce wastage. RW said that larger hospitals are doing this. FC said that perhaps we should give a national reminder to hospitals about this – **Action: RW will look into doing this.**

Action: DJ will share work done at St. Mary's in collaboration with BSMS with CB.

- RCI & H&I forms – please complete correctly to help NHSBT
- B neg & K neg RBC – discarding more than we would like. Please only order for a specific patient, not as stock orders.
- High titre cryo neg products being requested – there is no requirement for these. The only requirement is for O products to a non-O patient. DJ thinks the reason for this is inexperienced BMS'. At St. Mary's they have reduced their stock levels to very low levels which puts them under pressure for platelets. If they order high spec platelets, it is in very low numbers. RW said their supply system is struggling because more ad hoc and emergency deliveries are being requested.

PBM Update – TJ gave the presentation

- Blood Assist app – a great tool, looking into developing a paed version
- E-learning: Blood Component Use in MH (3 modules – obs, gastric, trauma). 2 new modules added to the anaemia package.
- O pos toolkit – most downloaded toolkit. Would like to roll this out in London.

Action: TJ will arrange to present this at the next TADG meeting

04/22 Regional BSMS Update

Jill Caulfield delivered the presentation.

- The increasing number of hospitals not entering their wastage data is making it difficult for NHSBT to plan and predict demand. The BSMS team are happy to help and provide training.
- RBC and platelet revised user group categories – this may mean that your hospital has moved into a different category than before. The updated categories can be downloaded from the website.
- New hospital reports – any feedback on the new style is greatly appreciated. Everyone likes that wastage is included and you can see how much you have wasted in monetary terms.
- Inventory Management Best Practice Guide is available to download from the website.
- KPIs and benchmarking – these were produced following a request from hospitals to provide some metrics to monitor performance.
- All the dates for the online smarter inventory management education course are full. More dates will be added and also dates for 2023. Looking to bring back the roadshows, but for now will concentrate on online events.

05/22 Biomedical Scientist Empowerment Discussion Group (BMSEDG)

DG had to leave the meeting, but his slides are included in the presentation above. The great success of the BMSEDG was highlighted and DG and ST were thanked for their hard work.

06/22 Any Other Business

Nothing to report

CB thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting ended