

**CONFIRMED Minutes of London Regional Transfusion Team Meeting
Via Microsoft Teams**

**Thursday 1st July 2021
14:00-16:00**

Present:

Phil Kelly (PK) (Chair)	Consultant Physician, Kings College Hospital
Cath Booth (CB)	Consultant Haematologist, Barts Health & NHSBT
Fatts Chowdhury (FC)	Consultant Haematologist, Imperial NHS Trust & NHSBT
Ravi Raobaikady (RR)	Consultant Anaesthetist, Royal Marsden Hospital
Elisha Tuesday (ET)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Kingston Hospital
Sammy Conran (SC)	Transfusion Practitioner, Croydon University Hospital
Donna Wiles (DW)	Transfusion Laboratory Manager, Northwick Park Hospital
Charlene Furtado (CF)	Transfusion Practitioner, Guy's & St. Thomas' NHS Trust
Helen Thom (HT)	CSM, NHSBT
Richard Whitmore (RW)	CSM, NHSBT
Danny Gaskin (DG)	PBMP, NHSBT

Apologies:

Shubha Allard (SA)	Consultant Haematologist, NHSBT
Ethan Troy-Barnes (ETB)	Haematology SpR, North Middlesex Hospital
Wendy McSparran (WM)	Transfusion Practitioner, Royal Marsden NHS Trust
Selma Turkovic (ST)	PBMP, NHSBT
Emily Carpenter (EC)	Transfusion Practitioner, Kings College Hospital (maternity leave)
Ciara Donohue (CD)	Consultant Anaesthetist, Royal Free NHS Trust (maternity leave)
Kate Maynard (KM)	PBMP, NHSBT (maternity leave)

Non-Attendees:

Michael Makele. Pathology Quality Manager, Kings College Hospital

Minute Secretary:

Angela Pumfrey (AP) London RTC Administrator

1. Welcomes and Apologies

Welcomes: None

Apologies: SA, ETB, WM, ST. 3 members are on maternity leave.

2. Minutes and Actions of Last Meeting

Item 6: Ban on UK plasma should read: "we have been asked to collect plasma for medicine". Otherwise, the minutes of the last meeting on 1st April were accepted as an accurate record.

ACTION: AP to arrange for minutes to be uploaded to JPAC website

Actions from Last Meeting

No8 – Not completed. Capacity planning was not discussed at the last TADG meeting. All other actions were completed.

3. Lab Manager Update

TADG meeting was held earlier this week. Items discussed were:

Human factors for SHOT reporting, MHRA inspections, training and competencies across multidisciplinary sites, UKAS. Rashmi Rook has retired and gave a talk about how the work in the lab has evolved over the last 38 years.

Electronic Data Interface: NHSBT are working on end-to-end sample tracking, so a sample can go electronically from Sp-ice back to hospital LIMS systems. A pilot will begin soon in Manchester.

There followed a long discussion about the importance of NHSBT being informed of any changes in hospitals' activity, e.g. opening extra theatres/wards and weekend working. This is so they can plan for increased demand and ensure there is enough stock, especially as the situation is changing all the time. It was highlighted that hospitals are struggling to catch up with the backlog due to staffing, sicker patients, and the movement of services and products. Hospitals are asked to continue informing either the CSMs', PBMPs' or Consultants of any change, even those you think may be irrelevant.

4. TP Update

The next London TP meeting is at the end of this month. NTPN meeting is on 14 July. The group would like to hold a scenario/simulation education day, but this depends on the Covid situation. TP2021 conference was held remotely this week over the period of three mornings. 130 delegates attended the first day. We are still awaiting formal feedback. A recording of the sessions will be uploaded to You Tube.

SC announced that she will be leaving her TP role to take up a new position as Associate Director for Quality Improvement at Croydon Hospital. Therefore, she will be stepping down from the RTT and the London and National TP groups. Someone will be taking over as Chair of the NTPN, but as yet there is no one to take over as Chair of the London group.

5. RTC Work Plan

- RTC meeting took place on 14th June. It was a fantastic event – the quality and scope of talks were brilliant. The return of evaluation forms has been very sluggish compared to previous events. This makes the feedback look very poor so we cannot provide a formal evaluation. In future, we will ask for feedback via MS Forms. We have a one year licence for Mentimeter so could use that for collecting feedback.
- Trauma Group – the group met yesterday. Discussion focused on the audit on reversal of anticoagulation in trauma / head injury patients. They hoped to launch the pilot throughout June. However, the several Trusts had delayed in collection of data because of problems with gaining approval to start and problems identifying junior colleagues in A&E to help collect the data. The pilot was extended to end of July.
They talked about holding either a virtual or F2F trauma education day this time next year.
FC has collected several paediatric MH protocols and will pull them together into one template to upload to JPAC & H&S websites for use by hospitals who do not have a template.
EC's place in the trauma group will be covered by Emma Tibbling.
The use of Fibrinogen was discussed. There is a push to use it as it reduces plasma wastage and can be ordered directly from your pharmacy, so it is hugely cost saving.
A trial is just starting on using Cryoprecipitate with a longer shelf life.
- LoPAG – Last met in April, next meeting will be held in September.
EOI for a new Chair put out. The current Chair will stay in post in the meantime.
The group wants more lab representation as it is very TP heavy. FC thinks high users of platelets should be part of the group.
Work has been done on what data is presented to the group to make it more useful and relevant for the group.
- Twitter – now at 1226 followers, but likely to now plateau.
- LinkedIn – slow progress. Will align with the Twitter account eventually so we have a larger reach.
- BMS Discussion Group – the meeting held yesterday was very well attended and feedback was very positive at 100%. Currently 850 registered members. An abstract poster showcasing the group and its development has been accepted for presentation at the SHOT conference.

6. Customer Services Update

- Following NEQAS recommendations, NHSBT want to standardise titre reporting, so from September levels will be reported one dilution higher.

- Following one driver injuring his back, boxes that contain more than four PCMs' will not be collected by drivers.
- Implement Electronic Data Interface – discussed in Item 3.
- Donations have fallen, mainly due to Covid vaccination centres competing for the same spaces as donor sessions, and the high number of Covid infections. It was asked whether NHSBT will re-introduce mobile units. RW said that every possibility is being looked into; if you are happy to have a mobile unit at your hospital, please let us know – Croydon and Northwick Park expressed their interest.

7. Educating Junior Doctors

ETB gave last minute apologies.

PK highlighted that a new cohort of junior doctors will arriving in August. He thinks that transfusion thresholds are now established in people's minds, and are edging towards conservative thresholds, but there is still more work to do, especially with regards to coagulation tests in relation to liver disease. RW feels that junior doctors' knowledge/training of coagulation in general is not as good as it could be.

CB mentioned that the use of plasma and clotting products in general is an evidence-free zone which makes it difficult to educate doctors. An induction session by a Hepatologist would be useful for junior doctors. PK said they have tried to start projects/reviews on coagulation tests at Kings. They were never completed but did find that there were variations on how people interpreted the results.

8. Transfusion 2024 Recommendations – How to Take Forward

Action is still outstanding from the last meeting. Nothing further to report.

9. Any Other Business

a) SC Stepping Down

SC told the group how much she has enjoyed working with them and thanked them for their kind words. PK thanked her for the tremendous work she has done both regionally and nationally.

b) DG Stepping Down

DG reported that he will be moving onto another post within NHSBT at the end of August as KM will be returning from maternity leave. He told the group it has been a pleasure working with them over the last 10 months and thanked them for their support and how much he has learnt. PK thanked him for the work he has done on both the London RTC and PBM team

c) DW New Post

DW reported that she will be moving to a new post at Princess Royal Hospital, but will still remain on the RTT.

d) Pan-UK NHSBT Patient Information Leaflet

CB explained that this leaflet is nearly finalised. It incorporates all the individual leaflets aimed at patients who may require a blood transfusion into one leaflet. She will send it to the group when signed off - please promote it and give it to your patients. It is printable and will have a QR code.

e) Data from Marsden re. Post-operative Anaemia

RR will present data on post-operative anaemia management in cancer surgery patients during the pandemic at the next meeting. He will also explain how they educated surgeons to not do unnecessary blood transfusions.

f) Next RTC Meeting November 2021

Suggestions for theme/format were:

- Coagulation and/or liver disease – but would it be interesting enough?
- Plasma products/cryo - how to use it differently. CB can ask Laura Green to talk about cryo trials they are doing and also find a Hepatologist to give a talk. RW knows someone in Brighton who could also give a talk.

- Go back to the basics of cryo.
- CB can do a presentation similar to one she did on use and abuse of plasma.
- PK suggested a talk on ex-vivo tests and coagulation – he will speak to CB about the best way to approach potential speakers.
- The format will consist of a business meeting and education session lasting half a day.
- At the very most three talks during the education session, so it is not crammed.
- A meeting will be set-up after the summer holidays to discuss further.

11. Date of Next Meeting

7th October 2021 at 2pm

The group scheduled in the first meeting for 2022 on 20th January.

London RTT - Action list for 1st July 2021

Item No (minutes)	Action	By Whom	Completion
2.	Minutes of April meeting to be uploaded to RTC website	AP	Completed

END