DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP

EWG BUSINESS

Monday, 30 January 2017

Members:
Dr Jonathan Wallis  NBTC Chair
Dr Kate Pendry  NBTC Secretary
Dr Paula Bolton-Maggs  SHOT Medical Director
Dr Nicola Jones  East of England RTC
Dr Youssef Sorour  Chair of RTC Chairs
Dr Huw Williams  Director of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services, NHSBT
Mr Aman Dhesi  PBM practitioner deputising for Louise Sherliker

Invited Attendees:
Mr Chris Phillips  Head of Hospital Customer Service, NHSBT
Dr Stephen Thomas  NHSBT - Assistant Director - Manufacturing Development

Apologies:
Mr Stephen Bassey  Transfusion Laboratory Manager
Mrs Catherine Howell  Chief Nurse Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services, NHSBT
Mr Mick Burton  NHSBT - Accountable Executive - Core Systems Modernisation
Mrs Louise Sherliker  Interim National Lead: Patient Blood Management Practitioner Team

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01/17  Executive Working Group meeting held on 20 June 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2016 were agreed as a true record.

02/17  Review of NBTC Workplan 2016/17

KP presented overview of workplan.

- Sickle cell audit not yet reported. Hopefully it will be ready by March 2017.
- B Ridler, Exeter, to be invited to lead a future workshop on consent following her project.

ACTION: KP/ JW to start planning consent workshop for autumn NBTC meeting and invite B Ridler.
ACTION: AD to ask Papworth for sharing best practice in O D neg management.

ACTION: AD to add a list of hospitals that use O D positive for unknown patients to the O D neg toolkit on the hospital.blood.co.uk website.

03/17 NBTC Working Groups update

TLM Working Group

- Ongoing review of wastage in hospitals.
- Support for fDNA testing.
- Collaboration with RCI - training, referral and results.

Education Working Group

SA provided a paper on behalf of the group highlighting projects completed, projects in progress and future projects.

Patient Involvement Working Group

Biddy Ridler has completed her Masters on public and patient perceptions of blood transfusion.

Patient Blood Management Working Group

There was discussion regarding the NICE Quality Standards. NICE had not made any changes in response to the NBTC comments submitted during the consultation or subsequently when asked to put the name of the NBTC in support of the standards. These comments most particularly related to the standard that one unit transfusions should be used in patients not on chronic transfusion programme. JW felt that the NBTC could not therefore support the standards as presented. KP and JW will study the minutes of the consultation exercise held on the NICE website. A compromise suggested at the PBM meeting by Dora Foukaneli was to recommend that the standards be applied only to appropriate subgroups of patients. JW commented that the single unit transfusion pilots reported at the PBM meeting related only to a very limited proportion of patients on care of the elderly wards.

To be further discussed at the NBTC on Monday, 20 March 2017.

Action: CB to update agenda for NBTC in March.

Action: KP / JW to discuss NBTC approach to NICE quality standards for presentation to NBTC in March 2017.

04/17 Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT)

- 20th Anniversary of SHOT.
- Repeat UK TLC survey comes out in March.
- Applicants for the SHOT Cell Salvage expert position are to be interviewed.
- Budget - no change. Discussed electronic only vs. print copy of Annual Report. Cost around £25k for design. Awaiting feedback from a recent survey.
- PBM was commended on the prolific and useful output from the SHOT team.

It had been agreed by the NBTC a few years ago that it is appropriate for Octapharma to supply their complete data about SD-FFP issues to SHOT so
that the data for plasma are complete and the rates of major morbidity and death can be accurately computed in relation to total components issued. These are aggregate data and individual hospitals are not identified. Recently provision of these data had been held up as Octapharma were asking each hospital every year for permission to release the information. All agreed that this was not necessary and confirmed that these data should be provided annually.

05/17 NBTC budget

Aim to be able to continue the support for the NBTC activities including main meetings and working groups, the following actions have been taken:

- Guidelines for travel have been circulated stipulating no first class rail tickets and rail tickets to be booked 2-3 weeks in advance of the meeting to secure best price.
- Working groups to have one face to face meeting a year.
- Apart from NBTC main meetings - aim to use NHSBT meeting rooms to help reduce room costs.

06/17 NHSBT items

CP gave overview of Supply Chain Modernisation project and Leeds Sheffield project. Both are progressing smoothly having benefitted with early and proactive engagement with stakeholders. JW noted the ongoing need for washed red cells at Freeman may be negated if selected Red Cells are labelled HT negative. Internal NHSBT discussion about the possibility of this ongoing.

CP gave overview of NHSBT KPIs. Overall, meeting most KPIs apart from substitutions for Ro and wastage of A neg red cells (over collected to manufacture A neg platelets) JW was interested to see age of platelets at issue. This will be monitored as manufacturing is consolidated in the North.

It was noted that there was increasing demand for A neg platelets; an addendum has been developed for the BSH major haemorrhage guidelines to state that transfusion of platelets can cross ABO group in emergency and therefore no need to use A neg as universal group for stock. HW reported that O neg demand has fallen, although O neg issues continue to be flat despite fall in red cells in total due to frequent substitution with O neg for Ro red cells.

HW gave a brief overview of the major core systems modernisation project.

07/17 National Commissioning Group update

HW updated group on NCG discussions / decisions confirming that a letter has gone to hospitals a few weeks ago.

JW noted that continuing need for apheresis platelets for people born after 1/1/1996 was raised at the NCG. Edwin Massey had followed this up.
with Helen New who provided an audit trail to support the decision to
continue with this as described in the BSH paediatric transfusion guideline.

**Action:** KP has sent JW the email trail from Helen New and JW will pick
this up outside the meeting.

**Action:** JW to follow up on need for apheresis platelet for those born
after 1/1/1996.

### 08/17 Update on components

**HEV screening** - SaBTO decision was to introduce universal screening as
soon as Blood Services could scale up testing to meet this requirement,
NHSBT plans led by Stephen Thomas; go live date will be April / May 2017.
JW has been asked by SaBTO to give an idea of cost implementation of
new safety initiatives in hospitals for future reference.

A proposal for universal irradiation of platelets was under discussion. This
is already done in Wales and Scotland. There was discussion as to whether
the known adverse effects on platelet quality were clinically significant.
The evidence for this is weak. However in light of the findings from 20
years of SHOT and the impact of universal leucodepletion, most
particularly the highly effective LD in platelets in PAS, whether irradiation
was still necessary. It was suggested that this was an appropriate question
for SaBTO. JW noted that asking this question could delay any change and
might produce unexpected results. Members of the EWG agreed that it was
an appropriate action.

**Action:** JW to prepare paper for SaBTO with proposal to re-consider the
need for irradiation of blood components as a risk reduction measure
for GvHD in the presence of leucodepletion, and to consider the
benefits or otherwise of universal irradiation.

**Manufacture of 2 packs of pooled platelets from 8 donors, ST led
discussion.** The change had been risk assessed through the ABO Risk Based
Decision Making framework. It was concluded that there was a cost saving
available but it did not justify the increase in risk. This is to be reviewed
in perhaps two years time once the blood pack tender is completed, or if
other mitigations such as pathogen inactivation have been introduced.

### 09/17 Date of next NBTC EWG Meeting

**NB Change of date/venue**

**NBTC EWG / NBTC PBM**
Monday, 12 June 2017, NHSBT Birmingham New St, Room 2, Vincent Drive,
Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2SG.
### SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – Meeting held on 30 January 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minute Ref</th>
<th>Agreed Action</th>
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