

North East Regional Transfusion Committee

Region North East
Chair: Adil Iqbal

HIGHLIGHT REPORT for NBTC

Date	22nd April 2013
Regional Transfusion Team	Permanent representation includes RTC chair, HL team and Blood Conservation Link. Representatives also invited from key areas according to working agenda requirements. Permanent administrator in post. Meetings 6 weekly (teleconference or face to face). Minutes available via the website.
RTC Membership (including RTC attendance)	RTC chair, HL team, NHSBT HS, RCI and QA managers, HTC chairs from each trust within the region, and Cumbria. Paediatric representative, Northern Region Haematologists representative, Haemostasis representative, Audit lead and Anaesthetic lead. Trusts invited to send 2 representatives (HTC chair, TLM, TP). Attendance good with representation from all trusts as a rule. CPD approval for educational component of meeting & highlighting of non attendees has improved attendance.
Does the RTC have a patient representative?	Patient representative joined in 2009 but has not attended in this past year.
RTC Meetings	Meet 4 monthly. Meeting dates 12/06/13, 06/11/2013 and 05/03/2014. Minutes available via website. Meetings commence with 1 hour CPD approved education covering topical issues.
RTC Working Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study day organising committee. The 2013 committee has co-opted an Obstetrician to help plan the programme 'One born every minute'. We hope this will repeat last year's success and be of great benefit in organisation/promotion of the event. 2. Audit. Data analysis of the Blood Transferred with Patients has led to policies and procedures being rewritten. A paper on Wrong Blood in Tube has been submitted to Transfusion Medicine and has been presented at RTC, NEQAS and Patient Safety Conference. Most of the regions' hospitals are participating in the Multi Regional Audit of Blood Component Transfusion in Patients with Liver Cirrhosis. An Audit of Massive blood Loss is planned for summer 2013. 3. TP Group. Nurse authorisation for Haematology / Oncology staff will run again early 2014. The RTC has agreed to fund 2 places at the TP National Conference on 15th May, Birmingham. 4. ATP Group. Working on a blood transfusion training toolkit. 5. NBCUG. Well attended forum for hospital blood bank and NHSBT managers to discuss updates and other issues of mutual interest. Most recent meeting on 30/01/13 included a discussion on implementation of the new BCSH Compatibility Guidelines. Future meetings are scheduled for 08/05/13 and 02/10/2013. 6. Blood Conservation. Sue Wardle, TP from James Cook University

	Hospital developed a questionnaire to establish the use of conservation techniques within hospitals. Results presented to the RTC and action plan to be developed.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Audit Training Workshop, held at Newcastle Blood Centre 6th February 2013. Aimed at promoting quality awareness and participation among BMS and other staff involved in blood transfusion. Attendees evaluated the event well and reported that they would be more able to participate in quality related activities in their hospitals. • Pre-Optimisation and the Pre-Assessment Nurse, to be held at Newcastle Blood Centre. Tuesday 24th September 2013. • Annual study day – "One Born Every Minute" on Obstetric Issues, to be held at the Durham conference centre, 8th October 2013. • Nurse Authorisation for Haem / Onc, to be held at Newcastle Blood Centre. Early 2014. • Patient Blood Management aimed specifically at clinical users to be held early 2014. • Education event aimed at Laboratory staff to be held early 2014.
Audits/Regional Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Trusts but one are participating in the Multi Regional Audit of Blood Component Transfusion in Patients with Liver Cirrhosis. • Blood Conservation Survey. Results presented to RTC, looking to introduce regional guidelines for pre-op assessment of patients • North East RTC Survey of Massive Blood Loss. Will commence July 2013 and run for 3 months. • Where Does Blood Go? 4th cycle. RTC members agreed to repeat audit in 2014. • Use of CMV neg components in North East region since issue of SABTO guidance is being reviewed by the current specialist registrar. • Management and outcome of bleeding in relation to use of the new oral anticoagulants. • Routine use of tranexamic acid.
Website	Website is regularly updated and a news item is produced alternate months. All web pages have been fully reviewed and revised.
Planned Activities for next Reporting Period	Education days & audit as above
Constraints/concerns	<p>Time and financial constraints remain a concern for all non NHSBT staff and may affect attendance at meetings / educational events. The RTC addresses this by offering free funding for one member of staff per trust at selected relevant national meetings</p> <p>Regional concern about increasing financial constraints within trusts and the impact of future product development on blood budgets v staffing costs.</p> <p>The RTT are scrutinising all aspects of blood and component usage with a particular emphasis on platelet and group O neg usage and presentation of data at both HTCs and the RTC.</p>
Administrative support for the RTC	Permanent administrator in post providing excellent support to RTC.
Other issues	The region, with support from both the RTC and NHSBT, is currently actively exploring options for the provision of transfusion services within the newly developing pathology networks as part of the pathology modernisation agenda.