





# National Transfusion Practitioner Network Meeting Minutes


Date: 21/09/2020: Remote meeting via MST teams 14:00-15:30


| In Attendance    | Initial | Region             | Additional Title           |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Samantha Conran  | SC      | London             | NTPN Chair                 |
| Jonathan Ricks   | JR      | South Central      |                            |
| Ant Jackson      | AJ      | East Midlands      | BBTS Representative        |
| Barrie Ferguson  | BF      | South West         |                            |
| Aimi Baird       | AB      | North East         |                            |
| Michelle Lake    | ML      | Yorkshire & Humber |                            |
| Maxine Boyd      | MB      | West Midlands      |                            |
| Joanne Lawrence  | JL      | South East Coast   |                            |
| Emily Carpenter  | EC      | London             | London and SE Trauma Group |
| Selma Turkovic   | ST      | London             | NHSBT                      |
| <b>Apologies</b> |         |                    |                            |
| Rachel Moss      | RM      | London             | ISBT Representative        |
| Lydia Baxter     | LB      | North West         |                            |
| Andrea Marshal   | AM      | North East         | NBSBT                      |
| Tracy Nevin      | TN      | East of England    |                            |

## Main Meeting

| Agenda Item N° | Agenda Item  | Documents  |
|----------------|--|--|
| 1              | <b>Welcome, Introduction &amp; Apologies:</b><br><br>SC welcomed the NTPN to the meeting, apologies were noted and the meeting was confirmed quorate. Due to Covid-19 the previous meeting on 01/04/20 was not deemed quorate, attendees were invited to informally raise/discuss any issues and no formal minutes were produced.  | <br>National Transfusion Practitioner Network TOR |
| 1.1            | <b>NTPN Education Event 2021</b><br><br>Following on from the success of TP2020, EC announced that Kings Health Partners have proposed a second collaborative education event for February 2021. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic it is proposed as a virtual event with the option of being run over the course of 1 day or split into 2 hour sessions over the course of a week and allowing for attendees to login for presentations/speakers of interest. EC asked for feedback with regards to preference of Zoom or MST teams, the group confirmed preference for the latter due to potential accessibility issues for Zoom. Taking into the consideration the evaluation of TP2020 (see attached document) and requests from the group for comments/suggestions for: topics, speakers (if any can make a recommendation, seek to recruit or volunteer to speak), | <br>TP2020 Feedback (4).docx                      |
| <b>Action</b>  | All to feedback to EC cumulative perspective of their region as to whether a 1 day or multiple session education event is preferred & comments/suggestions for: topics, speakers (if any can make a recommendation, seek to recruit or volunteer to speak).  | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>05/10/20   |

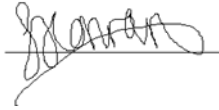
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| 1.2    | <p><b>Covid-19 Lessons Learned</b></p> <p>SC extended thanks and commendations to the group for their collaborative work on the Covid-19 lessons learned document. EC gave a brief summary of the piece of work which was first proposed by the TLM network and EC was approached for input from the NTPN, feedback was collated from across both networks and compiled into a document for sharing lessons learned. SC commented on the value of this piece of work, especially in the current climate and the potential “second wave” thus substantiating the benefit of shared learning and advised the NTPN representatives to raise this at their subsequent TP meetings. London has done so at their virtual regional TP network meeting on 23/07/20 and at the London RTC. The document will be made available on JPAC.</p>  | <br>NTPN Covid 19 Lessons Learned (1).:   |
| Action | All to discuss Covid-19 Lessons Learned at their next regional TP network meeting   | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>31/12/20   |
| 1.3    | <p><b>NBTC Components workshop</b></p> <p>On 07/09/20 SC emailed the NTPN for expressions of interest in representing the group on an NBTC work stream: Components Workshop. AJ stated that he was scheduled to participate as a BBTS representative. With thanks to AB for embracing the opportunity, a summary of the outcome of this workshop was provided. AB explained that principle behind the workshop was to guide and lead product development as part of a 5-year work plan for Component Development in NHSBT with the view to gaining an understanding of how component development could help to either meet an unmet clinical requirement or improve the efficiency of supply/ease of use. Some examples of component development projects, whether improving existing components or making new ones included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pooled granulocytes as an alternative to apheresis product</li> <li>• Extension of the shelf life of FFP following thawing to reduce wastage and facilitate rapid transfusion of plasma in major haemorrhage</li> <li>• Changing the production method for neonatal platelets to improve their storage characteristics.</li> <li>• Universal leucocyte depletion of the blood supply</li> <li>• Importation of plasma and pathogen inactivation to reduce vCJD risk</li> <li>• The use of whole blood, in particular, in the pre-hospital setting</li> <li>• Powdered Plasma</li> <li>• Refrigerated Platelets</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting is being scheduled within the next 6 weeks. SC has encouraged the NTPN to contact Aimi with any comments and suggestions. The NTPN look forward to receiving an update from AB at the next NTPN meeting.</p> |  |
| Action | Component workshop to be added as a rolling agenda item on the NTPN Agenda and an update to be provided by AB.  | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>31/12/20   |
| 1.4    | <p><b>TP Framework</b></p> <p>SC provided a brief summary of this piece of work (see document) and an update of progress to date: SC and EC have been revising the original 2011 document using the NHS Job</p>   | <br>PBM Transfusion 2024 TP Role WM 090 |

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|               | <p>Evaluation Handbook, National Profiles For Biomedical Scientists And Clinical Support Workers and Combined Nursing Profiles to define a generic profile for TP's ranging from AFC band 5-8b. EC was concerned that the 8b profile may raise the most concerns as it was not likely that many hospitals would require a TP at this level unless within a managerial capacity as from the clinical perspective it is thought that the post holder would sit between a TP and Registrar. JL stated that the lead TP within a large network is an 8b and concurs this is within the managerial capacity. JR elected to forward JD's as a means for compiling profiles. SC raised the potential need for a repeat national TP survey to support this piece of work. The group were happy to support a national survey. The NBTC was updated on this piece of work on 22/06/20, however at that stage only band 5-7 had been completed. Having considered the extent or potential for 8a/8b to lead into more managerial roles and/or the potential for a higher clinical requirement such as that defined by nurse consultant profiles, SC has stated that the profiles serve to provide a foundation of scope of practice as defined within a JD and it is recognised that this may vary from Trust to Trust. It is therefore imperative that a range of profiles is devised to meet this requirement and variety as evidenced in the example profiles used for nurses and BMS's in the NHS Employers Handbook. SC had a discussion with Dr Shubha Allard (NBTC) regarding external stakeholder engagement with a view to supporting and to aid steering this project and as a result a meeting has been scheduled with Angela Douglas; NHSE/I, Graham Wilson; HEE, Berne Ferry; HEE, EC and SC on 23/09/20. Pending the outcome of this meeting SC will provide an update to the NBTC and NTPN (as a rolling agenda item) at the next scheduled meeting.</p>  | <br>Generic framework for TP 2 sept 20.pdf |
| <b>Action</b> | SC to update NBTC and NTPN on progress to date  | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>31/01/20  |
| <b>1.5</b>    | <p><b>Regional Updates: RTC, TP meetings and Specialist groups</b></p> <p>ST fed back to the group that the London RTC was well attended as a virtual meeting, the event has been uploaded as a video on YouTube for those that are interested. BF stated that the Southwest RTC/TP meeting was postponed with a view to going to MS teams. ML commented that the Yorkshire and Humber RTC/TP meeting is scheduled for November. South East and South Central have a joint TP meeting in October and East Midlands RTC business meeting is scheduled to go-ahead in October, however, the education event has been cancelled. MB stated there has been good attendance to TP meetings in the West Midlands.</p> <p>SC raised that it was the London regions intention to do a joint TLM and TP network meeting, this was originally planned for 2020, however, Covid has led to delays in making such arrangements. South central and the West Midlands have successfully done this in the past. The joint SEC and London TADG has always had TP representation on it and it works really well. SC has suggested that as an action for NTPN members to arrange one joint TLM and TP network meeting for 2021 as a means for progressing network integration and collaborative working, the group were in agreement. MB stated that there were no formal minutes from the TP meeting to share but provided an update on activity: PBM education conference within the region and launch of the PBM toolkit was well attended. JL: QS138 tool identified consistently poor compliance with diagnosing/managing IDA and consent, therefore there is a focus within the region on improving this. JR: Hospital activity is reported as close to "normal" within the region, a drive towards e-learning/virtual training, the region is currently reviewing the use of O neg' as it has been noted that there has been an increase within the region and an RTT working group has been established. AJ: the last TP meeting was pre-</p> |   |

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|               | lockdown when initial concerns were raised regarding redeployment and an education day is planned within the coming months. With regard to BBTS AJ informed the NTPN that a virtual event is planned towards the end of the year and a TP forum has been devised. The forum is available on the BBTS website and open to members and non-members, registration for the forum will be vetted by a TP group. SC has requested that all regional TP meeting minutes/NPTN slides are uploaded onto NPTN MS teams files.  |  |
| <b>Action</b> | <b>Regional updates to be uploaded by all to MS teams files</b>  | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>31/10/2020   |
| <b>AOB</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several members have raised concerns regarding RTC education budgets: in the absence of running events in 2020 will the budgets be available for events in 2021 or is there scope for the budgets to be used in another capacity? e.g. online tools/resources? SC will raise this at the next NBTC meeting</li> <li>NTPN section on JPAC: at present all NTPN documents is uploaded onto the MS teams channel, SC proposes that we have a section on the JPAC website for transparency and accessibility and will raise this at the next NBTC meeting</li> <li>The London RTC has held the NTPN chairperson title for the last 2 years, between SC &amp; EC. SC felt it necessary and for the sake of equality and in accordance with our TOR to discuss the next chair person. The group have been asked to forward expressions of interest with a view to voting in the January meeting.</li> <li>Advances in Transfusion Medicine Symposium in November; group advised to inform their regions</li> <li>A query was circulated through the network regarding dropping the cord blood testing post-partum for patients who had cffDNA testing, SC contacted Erika Rutherford and was advised that the NICE guideline is being reviewed and advised the group to await the outcome as it was suggested that this may be factored into the revision.</li> </ul> | <br>RCPATH Advances<br>Transfusion Med 26th |
| <b>Action</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC to submit meeting minutes to NBTC and raise AOB items for discussion</li> <li>Expressions of interest to be forwarded to SC and vote for next chair person in January 2021</li> </ul>  | <b>To be completed by:</b><br>30/09/2020<br><br><b>To be completed by:</b><br>31/01/2020                                       |

**Date of the next meeting: 11/01/2021**

**With there being no further business the meeting was closed at 15:30 on 21/09/2020.**



Samantha Conran  
Senior Transfusion Practitioner, NTPN chairperson

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