National Transfusion Practitioner Network (NTPN) Terms of Reference

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The primary purpose of the NTPN is to work within National Blood Transfusion Committee (NBTC) objectives to promote safe, effective and appropriate transfusion practice. We aim to enable and strengthen those objectives by facilitating best practice resulting from the Transfusion Practitioner role.

2.0 Scope

2.1 The NTPN has membership primarily from England aligned to Regional Transfusion Committees
2.2 The NTPN will work to deliver its stated objectives in order to support Transfusion Practitioners in England to further transfusion education, embed transfusion recommendations and guidance, and aid collaboration to share best practice
2.3 Where required the NTPN will be open to collaboration with similar initiatives in UK, Europe and Internationally.

3.0 Objectives

3.1 Provide an active communication network between Regional Transfusion Practitioner Groups to aid collaborative projects and solutions, share best practice and minimise duplication of work
3.2 Co-ordinate and share Regional tools and solutions developed to aid the application of the 2014 Recommendations for the Implementation of Patient Blood Management (PBM) for England and the Transfusion 2024 Recommendations
3.3 Provide a conduit of two-way communication from Regional to National level to develop a united voice of Transfusion Practitioners
3.4 Consult and collaborate with other transfusion practitioner groups (TPG’s) from the devolved nations and international TPGs to share and develop best practice
3.5 To provide Transfusion Practitioner expertise in national steering groups, working groups and clinical reference groups where required
3.6 Identify Transfusion Practitioner service development needs and feedback to the NBTC
3.7 To review NHSBT service delivery change and audit proposals, and to advise on their impact to hospital clinical transfusion services

4.0 Membership

4.1 Required: Chair or representative from each Regional Transfusion Practitioner group in England
4.2 Representation from BBTS TP Group
4.3 Representation from NHSBT PBM Team
4.4 Representation from ISBT
4.5 Optional:
   • Representation from Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. (During periods when Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales are unable to supply members, routes of communication through the BBTS link will be relied upon)
   • Representation from NBS in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales

4.6 Quorum: The NTPN will be considered quorate if a minimum of 8 of the 10 England RTCs are represented

*Transfusion Practitioner is the most commonly used job title in England but alternative titles include Hemovigilance Practitioners, Transfusion Clinical Nurse Specialists and Hospital Patient Blood Managers. Throughout this document we have used ‘Transfusion Practitioner’ as an all-encompassing term.
5.0 Working Arrangements

5.1 The Network will report back to the NBTC
5.2 There will be a minimum of 3 meetings a year by teleconference.
5.3 The secretariat of the group will be provided by NHSBT
5.4 The Chair of the group will be elected by members of the Network and will expect to serve for a two-year term, with the option of extending for a further two years.
5.5 Members will be expected to rotate as indicated by their local terms of reference of their TPG. In areas that do not have a local term of reference, they will be expected to serve for two years.

6.0 Outcome Measures

6.1 Development of shared resources for Transfusion Practitioners
6.2 Engagement and coordination of Transfusion Practitioners in delivering national initiatives
6.3 An annual national education day for Transfusion Practitioners
6.4 An active and regularly updated web page on the Joint United Kingdom (UK) Blood Transfusion and Tissue Transplantation Services Professional Advisory Committee website

*Transfusion Practitioner is the most commonly used job title in England but alternative titles include Hemovigilance Practitioners, Transfusion Clinical Nurse Specialists and Hospital Patient Blood Managers. Throughout this document we have used ‘Transfusion Practitioner’ as an all-encompassing term.