

LoPAG

Platelet Champions Newsletter

Edition 5 – Winter 2015/2016



Dear Platelet Champion,

Hello and welcome to the LoPAG Newsletter Edition 5. We didn't bring out a Newsletter earlier in 2015 as we were busy doing the "Where do platelets go" survey. Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey and it is hoped that the regional report and the dashboard report for each hospital prompted interesting discussions.

For this newsletter we are focusing on Top Tip 5 "*Consider using different ABO group platelets in adults who are bleeding*". We have looked at some of the survey data to see how this is managed in practice and included it in this newsletter. The table shows that many patients receive different ABO platelets and so it appears to be an accepted part of stock management.

We are hoping to hold another Platelet Champions Day later in 2016 so do please let us know if there is anything you would like to have included on that day.

Rachel Moss – Chair of LoPAG

Oct 2015 - Platelet Issues

National Platelet Issues - 23331

Regional Platelet Issues – 6316

Nov 2015 - Platelet Issues

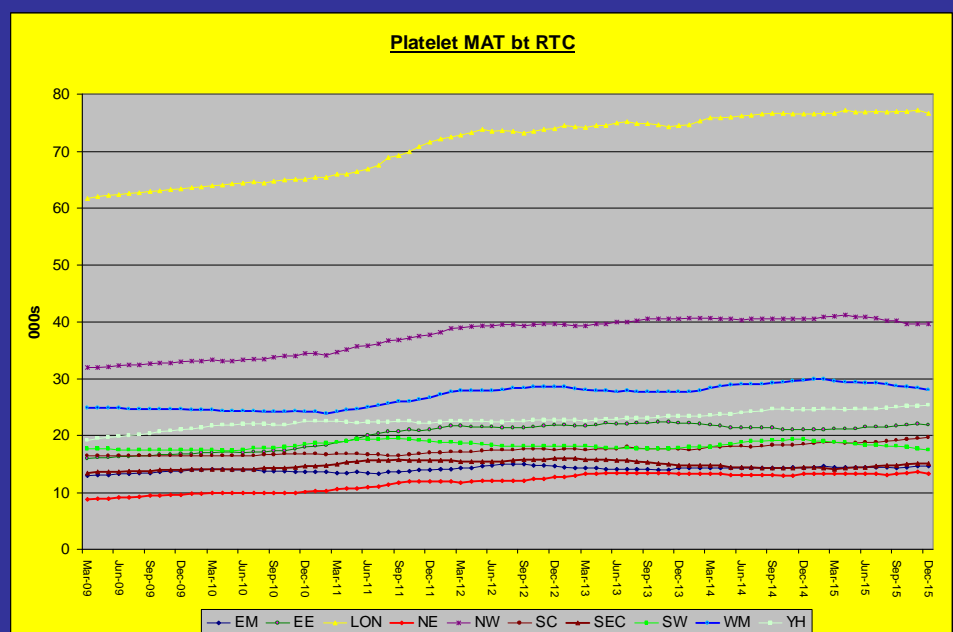
National Platelet Issues - 22243

Regional Platelet Issues - 6123

Dec 2015 – Platelet Issues

National Platelet Issues - 22896

Regional Platelet Issues – 6202



As you can see from the graph above, the London RTC region continues to have more platelets issued to its hospitals than any other RTC region

National Platelet Resources available at: <http://hospital.blood.co.uk/>

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Top Tips to reduce platelet usage and wastage NUMBER 5

Consider using different ABO group platelets in adults who are bleeding

Although when used prophylactically ABO matched platelets survive longer, in the bleeding patient a different ABO group will be just effective at stopping bleeding

Where Do Platelets Go Survey 2015
The transfusion of first platelet given by platelet and patient blood groups

Platelet ABO Group against Patient ABO Group Transfused for 1 st Platelet Given											
	Patients Blood Group and Platelet Group										
Platelet Group	AB-	AB+	A-	A+	B-	B+	O-	O+	Unknown	Blank	Totals
Patient Group (n)											
AB- (1)				1							1
AB+ (30)		12		16		1			1		30
A- (35)			27	6	2						35
A+ (257)	1	8	41	186		2	6	5	6	2	257
B- (13)			7		5		1				13
B+ (1)	1										1
O- (39)			14	2	2	1	19	1			39
O+ (273)		4	23	91	2	4	25	116	5	3	273
Unknown (3)			1	1		1					3
Blank (7)				2				5			7
Platelet Totals	2	24	113	305	11	9	51	127	12	5	

Summary

- The survey asked which groups were held as stock platelets and the majority were Group A RhD Positive and Group A RhD negative
- 39% of Group A RhD Positive platelets were given to non Group A RhD Positive patients
- 77% of Group A RhD negative platelets were given to non Group A RhD negative patients
- This is likely to indicate that these platelets were given in an urgent situation or to prevent Time Expiry
- The 2015 BCSH guideline for haematological management of major haemorrhage recommends group A platelets for unknown patients to be issued (RhD negative for female patients under 50 years of age) therefore it is recommended that the Laboratory SOP allows the BMS to do this in an emergency situation.

Guidelines and Best Practice

NICE Guidelines

The platelet section has generated some clinical discussions particularly in haematology patients. It will be interesting to see what the results of the National Comparative Audit in blood and platelet use in adult haematology patients, which is currently underway, shows when the report is out later in the year. LoPAG will be monitoring how the NICE guidelines are implemented with regard to platelets.

BCSH Platelet Guidelines

These are due to be published very soon hopefully in conjunction with write up from the Spotlight on Platelets day. Once published, the P Codes from the NBTC Clinical Indications for Transfusion Codes will also be reviewed. The survey showed that "Other" was used in 37% of platelet requests therefore LoPAG support the review.

Spotlight on Platelets November 2015

The expert opinions given on the day for best practice in platelet management are being written up by an expert panel and will be published in Transfusion Medicine very soon. This was a very informative day covering a wide range of both scientific and clinical management of platelets.

Your Case Studies

Next Issue (Summer 2016) – "Top Tip Number 6 – Consider using RhD positive platelets in adult males who are bleeding."

Give RhD negative platelets for RhD negative patients where anti-D would be a problem but in adult males who are actively bleeding, use RhD positive platelets if you have them available

Has this process been successfully used in your hospital? If so get in touch and we'll include your case study in the next edition of the newsletter.

Please send feedback and comments to rachel.moss@nhsbt.nhs.uk