

## Regional Transfusion Committee Business Meeting Confirmed Minutes

**THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2015 13.45 – 15.30 held at  
Walsall Manor Hospital, Moat Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS2 9PS**

**Present:**

Dr Chris Newson	(CN) Chairman, Walsall Hospital NHS Trust
Dr Craig Taylor	(CT) Vice-Chairman, Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr Charles Baker	(CB) University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust
Janine Beddow	(JB) University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust
Dr Chandra Bhimarasetty	(CBh) Royal Orthopaedic NHS Hospital Trust
Suzy Biggs	(SB) NHSBT, RTC Administrator
Maxine Boyd	(MBO) The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Sherin Bodh	(SBO) Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust
Julie Buchan	(JB) Burton Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Karen Cooper	(KC) Shrewsbury & Telford NHS Trust
Tracy Clarke	(TC) Wyre Valley Trust (Hereford) NHS Trust
Mandeep Dhanda	(MD) Walsall Hospital NHS Trust
Jayne Evans	(JE) City and Sandwell NHS Foundation Trust
Andrea Harris	(AH) NHSBT, PBM Regional Lead
Dr James Holbrook	(JH) Burton Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Pam Irving	(PI) University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust
Dr Matthew Lumley	(ML) Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust
Gurjit Pahal	(GP) Walsall Hospital NHS Trust
Natalie Richards	(NR) Walsall Hospital NHS Trust
Bethia Summers	(BS) University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust
Antoinette Turner	(AT) George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust

**Apologies:**

Phillippa Cheshire	(PC) Worcester Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
Dr Heidi Doughty	(HD) NHSBT / Defence Medical Services
Gill Godding	(GG) Worcester Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
Mike Herbert	(MHe) The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Mary Hutchinson	(MHI) University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust
James Taylor	(JTA) Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust
Mike Taylor	(MT) Shrewsbury & Telford NHS Trust
Craig Wilkes	(CW) NHSBT, Customers Services Manager

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.

Persons listed above sent their apologies prior to the meeting.

### 2. Matters arising and actions from minutes of 04 November 2014

Minutes accepted.

**Matters Arising:**

**RTC Attendance** – CN was delighted to announce that every hospital trust in the West Midlands region had attended at least one meeting over the past 12 months. SB will continue to log and update CN with attendees/non attendees regularly following each RTC Group Business, TP, TLM and Cell salvage meetings.

**Action: SB**

**Update from national Blood Transfusion Committee – National Transfer of Blood with Patients Guideline** – JTA has raised this at the Regional Laboratory Managers group meeting, requesting that the (unaltered) National form is used by all hospitals. Most blood transferred regionally goes to University Hospital Birmingham, and MHI (TP) has confirmed that if this paperwork is completed correctly and cold chain is maintained, blood transferred to them will not be wasted. However, they cannot manage numerous different forms from individual hospitals. It has been requested that if any hospital has any comments or problems with this national form, that they are raised with the National Laboratory Managers group rather than making local alterations.

**BSMS issue / wastage data – any examples of good practice to be sent to SB to share regionally.** None have been received, but it is known that there are examples of good practice which could be shared. CN encouraged RTC involvement and networking.

**Platelet Threshold for Neurosurgery** – CN has discussed this with Mr Flint at University Hospital Birmingham. He agreed that the platelet count of 100 prior to transfer is an arbitrary figure. The aim should be to get patients to UHB ASAP, and can receive platelets there if needed. Junior doctors are being updated. If any further problems are identified, please inform CN.

All other actions completed or on the agenda.

### 3. RTC Objectives – 2014/2015 and 2015/2016:

The RTC 2014/2015 objectives have now been closed – all actions successfully completed.

Draft RTC objectives for 2015/2016 were discussed. Actions for Dr Heidi Doughty and James Taylor to be replaced by other members, as they are both leaving the RTC.

CN wants to add a new action specifically to help reduce red blood cell wastage over next few months, with a regional red cell wastage target of 1.5%.

The updated objectives will be posted on the RTC website, and added to the next RTC business meeting agenda for review.

**Action: SB**

### 4. Update from NBTC EWG and National RTC Chairs' meeting :

#### Summary of National Blood Transfusion Committee (NBTC) meeting March 2015:



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### 5. Audit Updates :

#### Regional Audit:

- WBIT audit – data collection completed - AH presented preliminary results.
- Albumin survey - Prompted by recent albumin shortages. MHe has discussed this with the regional laboratory managers group, who are keen to look at this. MHe is survey lead.

- Out of hours transfusion audit – planned to do after Summer holidays 2015. AH and Caroline Tuckwell are audit leads.

MHe has recently been appointed as new Regional Laboratory managers' chair, and so will be stepping down from the RTC audit group. Thanks to Mike for chairing this group over the past couple of years. A new RTC audit group chair is currently being sought. MHe will also ask at the next Regional Laboratory managers meeting for a new audit group representative.

**National Comparative Audit (NCA)** – Members of the group reported problems entering data into the online audit tool. In some cases they had to load the data twice, whilst in other cases they were being contacted by the NCA asking for information over the telephone. AH was not aware of these problems. Concerns expressed that this was very time consuming and may result in data transcription errors. Some had not yet started entering data, and were concerned that they would sufficient time as deadline to close data entry was very strict.

**Action:** AH / CN to send an urgent letter of concern to NCA.

#### 6. NICE Guidelines for Transfusion :

AH stated that the draft NICE Transfusion Guidelines are out for consultation - but you need to be a registered stakeholder. The NBTC has offered to collate feedback from Trusts if no other stakeholder registration available (details have been e-mailed to the RTC by SB). The summary report is 30+ pages, whilst the full guideline is 300+ pages.

Some concerns regarding some of the guideline recommendations were discussed (mainly ambiguous statements) – these are being fed back by the individuals.

#### 7. BCSH Transfusion Guidelines :

AH provided the attached update:



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#### 8. Competency Assessment Update:

CT provided an update on progress. The general recommendations are being ratified by the NBTC. Draft "Skills for Health" standards are being drafted by Lynne Manion (TP representative on the NBTC).

#### 9. BSMS Data / Issue Wastage Data:

AH presented the following data.



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#### O Neg pricing :

CB sits on the National Commissioning Group for blood components. He raised a suggestion that this group consider bringing in a differential (higher) price for group O neg red cells to encourage less inappropriate usage / wastage. General feedback from

committee members was not favourable. Complexities which need to be taken into account include size of hospital, specialities and distance / geography / travel times from the blood centre. CB will consider this feedback and feedback any additional information at future RTC meetings.

#### **10. WBIT Regional Survey – Initial Results:**

AH presented the preliminary WBIT regional survey results.



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A report is being drafted and will be circulated soon.

#### **11. Regional Shared Care – Update on Progress:**

The regional shared care policy document is available on the RTC website, and all shared care e-mail addresses (nhs.net) are compiled by SB. As JT will be leaving the RTC, Jane Tidman (Transfusion Laboratory Manager at UHB) has agreed to take responsibility for this document (version control).

#### **12. Suggestions for future RTC Meeting/Educational Events:**

Please send all suggestions to AH/SB with ideas for future themes and venues'.

**Action: All**

#### **13. Any Other Business:**

**British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) Patient** - ML (Heart of England) reported that a lady had been admitted to them with complications following treatment at a BPAS site. She had received anti-D at BPAS who grouped her as Rh negative, but at BHH she was found to be Rh positive. BHH staff had difficulty obtaining information from BPAS. ML spoke with and exchanged emails with their medical director to resolve the situation.

**Changes in RTC membership** - James Taylor (Lab manager at Heart of England, and Regional Laboratory Managers group chair) will be leaving the committee as he takes up a new post at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Dr Heidi Doughty will be moving to a new role in NHSBT (Component Development) and will also be leaving the committee. Dr Suzy Morton will be a new joint Consultant between NHSBT and UHB. She is due to start September.

The group wished to thank Dr Doughty and James Taylor, for all their hard work over many years. The RTC wished them both well in their new roles.

#### **14. Date of next meeting:**

The next RTC and Business Meeting will be on Thursday 05 November 2015 at Birmingham Post Graduate Centre.