

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL TRANSFUSION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Monday, 20 March 2017 10:00 – 11:00

**Rooms on Regents Park, Royal College of
Obstetricians and Gynaecologists**

27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4RG

Present:

Dr Youssef Sorour	YS	Chair and Y&H RTC
Ms Celina Bernstrom	CBe	EA to the NBTC
Dr Craig Carroll	CC	North West RTC
Dr Jon Cort	JC	East Midlands RTC
Dr Alistair Dodds	AD	North East RTC
Dr Nicola Jones	NJ	East of England RTC
Dr Phil Kelly	PK	London RTC
Dr Chris Newson	CN	West Midlands RTC
Dr Kate Pendry	KP	NBTC Secretary
Dr Nigel Sargent	NS	South Central RTC
Ms Louise Sherliker	LS	Interim National Lead: PBM Team
Dr Jonathan Wallis	JW	NBTC Chair
Dr Sarah Wexler	SW	Chair South West RTC




Apologies:




Dr Howard Wakeling	HW	South East Coast RTC
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In attendance:



Dr Dora Foukaleni	DF	NHSBT Cambridge
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RTC 01/17	Welcome and Introductions, Apologies
	The Chair welcomed everyone and noted the apologies
RTC 02/17	Minutes of the RTC Chairs Meeting – 19 September 2016
	The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September were agreed as a correct record.
RTC 03/17	Matters Arising
	Dr Nicola Jones attended the NBTC Executive working group meeting on 30 January 2017 as a second representative attending in addition to the Chair of Chairs, Dr Sorour.

	Expressions of interest to join the Chair of Chairs at the next NBTC Executive working on 19 June 2017 in Birmingham are to be forwarded to CBe (celina.bernstrom@nhsbt.nhs.uk).
	Action: All
RTC 04/17	Review and discussion of the RTC reports
	<u>North East – Alistair Dodds</u>
	 <p>Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc</p>
	Completed largest ever study day for 250 delegates. The RTT are using a different approach this year by reaching out to physicians. Running two audits/surveys: Where does O neg go? and Usage of Idarucizumab. Staffing and wastage continue to be significant issues in the region.
	<u>South West – Sarah Wexler</u>
	 <p>Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc</p>
	Staffing pressures in transfusion laboratories experienced in the region. Received positive feedback from PBM surgery education day with 70 delegates attending. Trying to engage GPs.
	ISO15189 standards used by UKAS. UKAS inspectors seem unnecessarily interested in issues which TLMs consider trivial. If other regions feel the same way can NBTC send a communication to UKAS to encourage them to prioritise more sensibly?
	<i>Post meeting update this issue was raised with Stephen Bassey at the NBTC meeting in the afternoon. As chair of the TLM group he is in correspondence with UKAS and has this in hand.</i>
	<u>North West - Craig Carroll</u>
	 <p>Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc</p>
	Two Education Events planned for 2017. 05 May and 24 November. These are all day events.
	Ongoing concerns of recruitment and retention of BMS staff. One hospital even suggested laboratory use of O neg overnight instead of funding a second BMS on call. Funding concerns for a second BMS to be on overnight.
	<u>East of England – Nicola Jones</u>

	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	Pathology modernisation causes continued concern. Laboratories report a shortage of experienced Band 6 staff, meaning the few present have to train new Band 5 and locum staff whilst also undertaking on call and shift work. Short staffing is impacting predominately on quality management systems and staff illness and is starting to cause regulatory issues.
	Recent audit of fresh frozen plasma use in the region
	<u>South Central - Nigel Sargent</u>
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	The RTC meeting held on 01 March included an Education Symposium themed 'Platelets - lets stick together'. This meeting was well attended with 40 delegates on the day.
	Current projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audit on interventional radiology ▪ Audit on wastage in transfer of blood ▪ Cross regional projects with South East Coast and London
	The issue of wastage of blood in transfer was discussed and whether current transport links could be utilised. YS agreed to feed back at the NBTC later in the day on the movement of blood.
	KP expressed interest in KPIs for the region and asked if it was possible to share with the NBTC PBM working group to support discussions on a benchmarking process for PBM.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NHSBT consider taking back products which are no longer required to allow them to be re-issued or share them with other hospitals. Or facilitate in the transport of platelets between hospitals on existing transport to encourage sharing of spare stock ○ Length of NCA tools and turn around time felt to be too big and become more of a chore than education exercise. ○ Complaints about Learnpro changing the opening page which has caused confusion with some staff doing training.
	Action: NS to share KPIs with KP
	<u>South East Coast – Howard Wakeling</u>
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	Apologies.

	The loss of an SEC dedicated PBMP with the inevitable reduction in cover for the region; the new incumbent, now 4 months in post, provides 0.5 of PBMP cover to the SEC region as her time is divided between SEC & South Central.
	<u>West Midlands – Chris Newson</u>
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	RTC Conference and Business Meeting (02 November 2016):
	Conference “A Day At The Movies”.
	Dr Chris Newson is due to hand over in November 2018 and the RTT continues to search for somebody to fill this position.
	<u>28 April 2017: TP Conference – “From In-Utero and Beyond”</u> , multi-disciplinary study day at Birmingham Children’s Hospital; 80 delegates registered so far, and 4 sponsors supporting so far.
	CN to share audit with group.
	Action: CN
	<u>London - Phil Kelly (not present)</u>
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	Alarming constraints were highlighted. Feedback from the South Thames TAG meeting to the RTT group that in some labs Band 2 MLAs are being trained to carry out Band 4 BMS roles without having the relevant qualifications or registration.
	<u>East Midlands – Jon Cort</u>
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
	Every hospital encourages compliance.
	Gaps in education highlighting a risk mitigation process. Human factors in errors suggest lack of transfusion training for undergraduates.
	Discussion around medical student and foundation doctor training will be covered in the education workshop held immediately after this meeting
	<u>Yorkshire & The Humber – Youssef Sorour</u>

	 Adobe Acrobat Document
	<p>Similar issues as EM region from both RTC meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase workload and staffing issues within the lab • Staffing issues- unable to recruit to vacancies, having to look at 'home grown' staff to fill vacancies. • Current educational provision/ pathology modernisation doesn't appear to be working for transfusion services in the region
RTC 05/17	RTC Audit Update
	Report attached from Brian Hockley for information.
	 Q:\Teresa Little\ Litt0004\National Bloc
RTC 06/17	O Neg Working Group
	DF gave overview and presentation and reported on demand rationalisation and control of use of O RhD negative red cells.
	Priorities of the group.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduction of substitutions ○ Stock management ○ Communication/co-ordination of actions ○ Rationalisation of demand
	DF showed the figures on use of O Neg for non-O Neg patients in 3 large teaching hospitals. She highlighted the transfusion of O neg to avoid expiry as a marker perhaps of overstocking. She also highlighted the level of substitutions by NHSBT particularly for patients with sickle cell disease.
	DF presented a model of how O Neg could be allocated according to the base frequency of O neg in the patient population and the type of services delivered by a Trust. This model could be used to highlight which Trusts could be overstocking O neg so that the reasons can be understood and opportunities for improvement identified.
	CC questioned the 2 sample rule and delays in getting transfusion products. DF noted that the O neg working group are working with manufacturers to speed up time to obtain an automated group to allow transfer to group specific blood.
	Action: DF to prepare paper with O Neg working group that can be shared at RTC meetings to ensure buy in with the proposed model

RTC 07/17	RTC Budgets
	LS clarified how budgets for the NBTC and RTCs are being used. There is an underspend in some regions at year end and this money has been used to further develop the national indication codes app.
	Further clarity in allocation of funding to regions from the central NBTC budget will be provided.
	Action: LS to provide paper on RTC budgets for RTC chairs.
RTC 08/17	Date of next Meetings
	NBTC/RTC Chairs – Autumn meeting Monday, 18 th September 2017 at Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ