

## EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL TRANSFUSION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at the Hallmark Hotel Cambridge  
from 9:30 – 13:00

### Attendance:

Name	Role	Hospital
Lisa Cooke (LC)	Consultant Haematologist	QEHKL
Lorraine Fitzgerald (LF)	TP	Bedford
Julie Edmonds (JE)	TP	Lister Hospital
Georgie Kamaras (GK)	HTC chair	Luton & Dunstable
Claire Newsam (CN)	Deputy TLM	Addenbrooke's
Ben Sheath (BS)	TP	WHHT Watford
Janet Pring (JP)	TP	NNUH
Joanne Hoyle (JH)	Transfusion Nurse Specialist	West Suffolk Hospital
Sarah Clarke (SC)	TP	Ipswich Hospital
Camila Conway (CC)	TLM	Ipswich Hospital
Teresa Green (TG)	Lead BMS	Basildon & Southend
Carol Harvey (CH)	TLM	Colchester Hospital
Debbie Asher (DA)	EPA Transfusion Team leader	EPA
Hamish Lyall (HL)	Consultant Haematologist	Norfolk & Norwich
Nicola Jones RTC Chair (NJ)	Consultant Anaesthetist	Papworth
Claire Sidaway (CS)	TLM	Hinchingbrooke
Julie Jackson (JJ)	TP	James Paget Hospital
Lynda Menadue (LM)	HTC Chair NW Anglia	PCH
Dora Foukaneli (DF)	Consultant Haematologist	Addenbrooke's
Veronica Hilbert (VH)	Minutes	Addenbrooke's

**Apologies:** Mohammed Rashid, Kaye Bowen

**1. Welcome:** NJ welcomed those present and introductions were made

**Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed as accurate. Matters arising as follows:

- Process for continuing WBIT incident data collection has been completed
- No comments were received from the E of E survey and therefore the survey has been shared

### 2. Regional Update

- Good feedback from Blood, Sweat and Fears
- Maria Smith's presentation received particularly good feedback
- VANESA workshop on 6<sup>th</sup> November organised by Clive Hyam has received good feedback. If needed another day could be arranged. Feedback from this will be given at the TP/TADG meeting in September
- Following Jane O'Brien's retirement, a new RTC administrator is being recruited. Update on interim cover provided by Frances Sear. A generic email for regional and admin enquiries has been set up [EoERTC@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:EoERTC@nhsbt.nhs.uk)  
NB. A new administrator has now been appointed to start on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019

### TP & TADG

TP held a successful 'World Café' workshop looking at core skills and knowledge

CS mentioned that the last TADG meeting had a small number of attendees, inspections and fridge mapping discussed.

### **Regional Audit & Surveys**

Now have support from Regional NHSBT audit team. Audits now being analysed using SNAP online tool. HL asked whether now that SNAP is being used whether collaboration and joining with other regions would be helpful

### **RTC meetings**

FS asked for feedback on what the RTC would like on future agendas, speakers, issues and ideas.

### **Transfusion Practitioner Competencies**

DF advised that Michaela Lewin, Lead transfusion Manager at CUH had developed a training competencies doc for TP's. This will be used for a few months in CUH before considering rolling out to other regions. If other areas already have a doc, consider sharing to develop further

## **3. Q Initiative – The Health Foundation**

Presentation from FS

- Q website provides more information <https://q.health.org.uk>
- Members of the region to take a look and join. Application takes a little while to complete but is worth the effort
- Also has quality initiative funding available if unable to get from elsewhere. Feedback to the next RTC meeting if anyone has joined and their experience

## **4. NHSBT Update**

No update given as MR unable to attend. Presentation circulated with the minutes

## **5. Eastern Pathology Alliance (EPA)**

Presentation from Debbie Asher 'Experience of Pathology transformation'

DA described her experience with pathology transformation, the difficult times with staffing which continues still at all three hospitals, IT connectivity issues etc. Having experienced staff is key in demanding roles. Huge amount of training involved and the hospitals are being supported by locums. Her presentation will be circulated

## **6. Pathology Modernisation**

Professor Adrian Newland, chair, Pathology Productivity Optimisation and Implementation Board gave a short talk followed by a Q & A.

- 1/5 up and running hope to have 1/3 by Spring this year
- Consider agency staff changing over to bank staff as a means of saving money
- NHSBT & NBC subcommittee has been set up
- Model staffing structure to be used as a guide
- May in time go down to 14 networks

RTC members voiced their concerns on how further savings can be made, retaining and recruiting staff, ways of making jobs look more attractive, training issues, staff with little

experience are being promoted to fill vacancies. Also the human cost of dealing with the enormous changes being made.

Professor Newland said he understood the challenges being faced and was working with various work streams to try and resolve the issues. He also said that he could not promise that all would come good but he did understand the problems.

## **7. AOB**

Request forms for investigation of adverse effects. Ensure paperwork is completed.  
FRM15812 – to give further information on the unit, patient reaction and information for NBL.

## **Presentations circulated with the minutes**

- **Regional Update**
- **The Q initiative**
- **EPA pathology transformation**
- **NHSBT Update**

**Actions:**

No	Action	Responsibility	Status/due date
1	Investigate potential audit on the impact of pathology transformation on transfusion practice, laboratory staffing, staff retention, QM & training and transfusion services	NJ, FS, RTT	
2	Check with Shalineee Wickramasinghe about SLAs including refunds on short dated platelets	MR	
3	Send Suggestions for content, presentations and potential speakers for future RTC meetings to FS	All	