

REGIONAL TRANSFUSION TEAM

Minutes of the meeting held at 2 pm on Thursday 24th April 2014 at Cambridge Donor Centre. APPROVED

Present:

Name	Hospital	Name	Hospital
Jim Bamber JB Chair	Addenbrooke's	Dora Foukaneli DF <i>Arrived 3.20 pm</i>	Addenbrooke's & NHSBT
Rukhsana Hashmat RH	NHSBT	Debbie Asher DAs	Norfolk & Norwich
Donella Arnett DAr	Watford	Frances Sear FS	NHSBT
Jane O'Brien JO'B <i>Minutes</i>	NHSBT		

Apologies: Carol Harvey, Sharon Kaznica, Charlotte Alford, Claire Atterbury, Aman Dhesi.

- Welcome:** JB welcomed those present to the meeting especially RH who is the new Customer Services Manager for Cambridge and Brentwood.
- Minutes of last meeting:** agreed as accurate. Matters arising: paediatric transfusion rate; ascertain level of transfusion training within midwifery courses – both outstanding. Other actions complete.
- Transfer of Blood with Patients audit:** the results of this regional audit were presented at both our RTC and RTC Chairs meetings. It showed that blood is rarely transfused in transit; occasionally used at the receiving hospital and most often wasted or entered into stock.
JB said that a national transfer of blood documents have been based on our regional ones but the audit showed that many of our hospitals are not using the regional documents or using them inconsistently. There was discussion as to how to encourage hospitals to use the correct documentation and it was agreed to raise it again at the TADG. It was noted that Addenbrooke's, as the main receiving hospital within the region, actively encourage its use. Following discussion as to how to disseminate our findings to a wider clinical audience it was agreed to send a summary of the report to TPs, TLMs and HTC Chairs and ask them to present it at their HTC meetings. *Action: JO'B to combine PowerPoint and summary and distribute to hospitals for presentation.*
- Pre-operative anaemia audit:** Brian Hockley, NHSBT Audit Officer had contacted FS to ask if our region would be interested in combining with other regions on this audit and it was agreed that subject to approval of the audit pro forma we would be happy to do so. *
- Blood Transfusion in Surgical Practice – RTC education event** to be held on the 18th September at Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre. Claire Atterbury has confirmed Toby Richards and Andy Eynon as speakers and a member of the East of England trauma team has also agreed to speak. This means that the programme is now complete so we can move forward with advertising and promotion. *Action: JO'B to circulate all conference documents to HTC Chairs and TPs for further distribution.*
JB asked about Mums, Babies and Blood and JO'B responded that she expects full attendance again.

- 6. Massive Blood Loss Policy:** It was previously agreed that all regional documents be reviewed every 2 years and the MBL policy was ratified in May 2012. In addition, both DAr and DAs had requested changes in text.
- “Contact portering services” – it was noted that several hospitals do not use porters to collect blood and making a change to this wording was discussed. However as the wording is non-specific it was agreed to keep it unchanged.
 - “Give Group O RhD Negative if immediate need” – DAs said that NNUH are frequently issuing Group O RhD positive blood to male patients and women above a certain age. It was agreed to alter the wording to “Give Group O”
 - “Consider giving tranexamic acid” is to be added above “Contact Haematologist”
Action: JO'B to arrange changes and circulate amended document to RTT and Dr Simon Lewis of the Trauma Network.
- 7. Twitter:** Following the presentation at the RTC meeting about the setting up of a Twitter account for the London RTC, we agreed to discuss whether this would be beneficial in our region. FS is to develop a framework as a proposal, including time required to manage an account, for discussion at the next RTT. *Action: FS to feedback on further investigation at the next meeting.*
- 8. RTC business:**
- CATS team (Children’s Acute Transport Service): following a case at NNUH during the transfer of blood audit when a CATS team transferring a child took a unit of blood saying they had a fridge on board, it was noted that many attendees at both TP Network and TADG meetings had not heard of CATS. It is an NHS organisation which has been in existence for 10 years providing transport, primarily between Paediatric ICUs in London and the South East. Claire Atterbury contacted them to invite them to an RTC meeting so that they can inform us as to their operation and we can ensure that they are familiar with all the requirements of transporting, storing and administering blood. *Action: FS to confirm the invitation to the RTC meeting on 26th June.*
 - EAAA: contact was made with Aman Dhesi by the Chief Executive of the East Anglia Air Ambulance to discuss blood on board, at an RTC meeting. Norfolk and Norwich have agreed to supply blood to the air ambulances based in Norwich using SERV riders to supply and retrieve blood between the hospital blood bank and the airport. However it is understood that the East of England Trauma Network have not approved this practice so it was agreed not to invite EAAA to the next meeting but to await further developments.
 - HTC Chairs attendance of RTC meetings: poor attendance of RTC meetings by HTC Chairs is a national problem and JB had asked JO'B to supply a breakdown of RTC attendance. This revealed that only 7 HTC Chairs and 6 Consultant Haematologists had attended at least one of the last 6 meetings. However, JO'B noted that overall attendance had improved since such a summary was last produced with one hospital showing attendance at only one meeting in the last 6 but all 17 other hospitals had representation at between 3 and 6 of the meetings. Average attendance over the 2 year period is 29. JB requested that the information be anonymised and distributed to RTC members. *Action: JO'B to produce a summary of attendance for circulation.*

9. NHSBT Update:

- Dept. of Health approval for the sale of the existing Brentwood building has now been received; the move from the current site is anticipated in early 2015.
- DAs asked about the current situation of Integrated Transfusion Services.
Action: RH to contact Richard Gray (NHSBT Process Improvement Manager) to discover the current status of the trial.

10. A.O.B:

- RTT: Cynthia Beatty has had to stand down from the RTT due to difficulties with child care. This leaves a vacancy for an HTC Chair and/or a Consultant Haematologist. It was also noted that RTT attendance has been very poor recently. JB suggested trialling holding an RTT meeting directly after the RTC and it was agreed to try this for the next meeting. *Action: JO'B to book an afternoon room at St John's if possible and circulate new date and location to RTT members.*
- DF attended a Trauma Network meeting prior to this meeting. She noted the following:
 - There was discussion on the inclusion of platelets in the primary MBL pack. JB said he was not aware of any publications to support this and DF said a randomised trial is currently taking place in America.
 - It has been reported that there has been an increased wastage of blood components because an MBL has been called when in fact the patient has had little or no need of blood products; therefore clinical need should be better assessed. JB said that sometimes conducting an audit raises awareness and improves clinical practice.
 - It has been suggested that MB FFP or Octaplas be used in all trauma packs.
 - DF was approached by a representative from the Clinical School asking if we would be interested in becoming involved in GP training and updates, which she was very happy to agree to. *Action: DF to send contact details to JO'B for circulation of surgical study day flyers.*

* Since this meeting, we have received information that a national audit, which will include aspects of pre-operative anaemia, is to be conducted next year. Therefore it has been agreed to shelf the regional audit for the time being.

Next meeting: St John's Innovation Centre, Cormack Room
1.30 – 3.30 pm 26th June 2014 *To be confirmed*

Actions:

Action	Responsibility	Due date/status
Discuss rate of transfusion for paediatrics MBL with Dr Morley	DF	Carried forward
Ascertain the level of transfusion training included in regional midwifery syllabuses	CAt/JO'B	Carried forward
Prepare final report on the transfer of blood audit and circulate to hospitals for presentations at HTCs	JO'B	ASAP
Finalise programme and flyer for surgical study day and circulate to RTC for further distribution and add to website	JO'B	7 th June

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Action	Responsibility	Due date/status
Notify Media Studios of agreed changes to MBL algorithm and circulate to RTT and Trauma Network	JO'B	Request for changes made to Media Studios
Investigate the logistics of setting up a Twitter account for the RTC	FS	20 th June
Confirm the invitation to CATS to attend the next RTC meeting	FS	12 th May
Summarise RTC attendance figures and distribute to RTC	JO'B	30 th May
Contact Richard Gray concerning ITS	RH	Contact made, awaiting response
Book second meeting room at St John's for RTT meeting 26 th June	JO'B	Provisional booking made, awaiting confirmation
Send Clinical School GP training contact to JO'B	DF	ASAP