

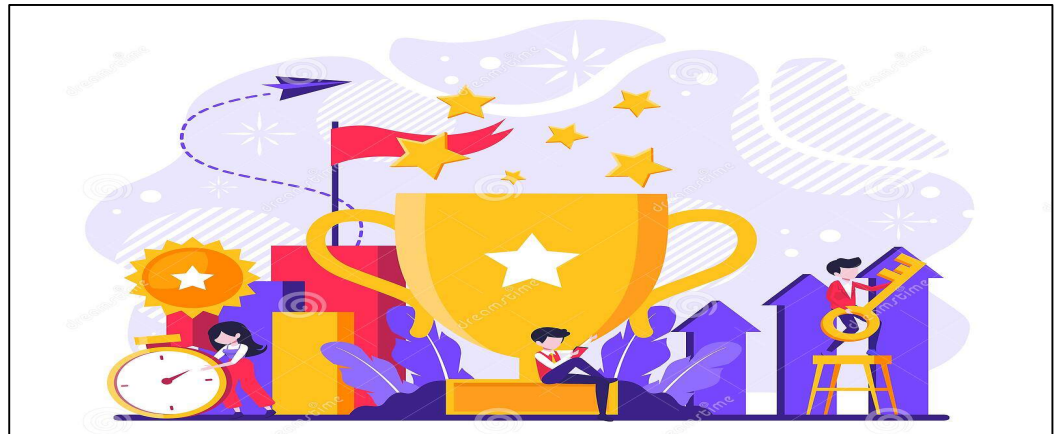
Welcome to the final edition of the newsletter for the 21/22 year.

We are taking the opportunity to review the year gone by and all the hard work and progress we have made within the region and the subgroups. Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and virtual working, there has been a phenomenal amount of education carried out across the region and its subgroups in comparison to previous years. I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to everyone who participated in the delivery and attendance of these sessions. There has been great progress with the O+ in bleeding males objective with many trusts participating in sharing their experience and data, and strong consideration and interest from those not currently using in practice. There will be a greater focus on the maternal anaemia objective in the coming months.

South West RTC

Newsletter

April 2022



Celebrating Success



This edition is all about celebrating what you have achieved over the last 12 months and looking forward to what we hope to achieve over the coming year.

Looking back over the last year

Your RTT:

RTC Chair	Dr Stuart Cleland
Haematologist	Dr Paul Kerr
Consultant Support	Dr Olly Pietroni, Prof. Mike Murphy, Dr Alison McCormick
TLM representation	Ian Sullivan, Tim Wreford-Bush
TP representation	Sally Charlton, Caroline Lowe, Vikki Chandler-Vizard
Educational Support	Lee Grimes
NHSBT representation	Sam Timmins, Jackie McMahon, Emma Taylor

Membership of the RTT was bolstered during the year to help support activity

National Representation:

National TP group: Stuart Lord – SW TP working group chair

National TLM group: Tim Wreford-Bush – RTT TLM rep.

NBCT: Dr Stuart Cleland – RTC Chair

I hope this newsletter gives credit to the tremendous work you all do both within your hospitals and as part of the regional network, and a flavour of some of the focus in the year to come. As always, we invite you to share your thoughts and ideas with us via the contact details below.

**Written on behalf of
Stuart Cleland RTC chair
and the RTT.**

Events

Regional:

**25.05.22:
SW RTC Meeting**

**08.06.22:
SW PBMG Interim Meeting**

**07.07.22
Transfusion Matters: Junior
BMS Education**

**07.09.22
Obstetrics & Maternity: What's
Blood Got To Do With It?**

**13.09.22
SW PBMG Full Meeting**

**09.11.22
Transfusion Still Matters:
Senior BMS Education**

**23.11.22
SW RTC Meeting**

The RTC



Two successful virtual RTC meetings were held during the year. The May meeting attracted 47 delegates. Alongside the business element, an update was given on Transfusion 2024, together with presentations on RCHT's maternal anaemia audit and NBT's Electronic Tracking Roll Out. The November meeting was attended by over 40 delegates and included the usual business updates, including some key messages from the NBTC around demand forecasting, universal components and the donor base and an overview of the HTC Chair report summaries, enabling a more meaningful overview of issues and wastage and other regional issues and providing a platform to highlight innovative ideas and good practice.

The Annual Survey

Work on updating the regional transfusion survey to produce more meaningful data continued with valuable input from the SW PBM, TP and TLM Groups. The new format will be ready to launch late Summer 2022 with the data being available to the hospital transfusion teams by way of presentation to the RTC which will be hosted on the regional SharePoint, and the regional benchmarking summaries.



The O+ Objective



Good progress was made with the O+ for bleeding males objective, with the Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust going live with their implementation in December. The Royal Cornwall team joined a host of other regional speakers at a follow up discussion and experience sharing session on the 6th April. 5/6 Trusts currently not utilising O+ were in attendance, with positive discussion, questions and feedback. The national supporting toolkit will be going live soon, and the RTT will be working on supporting communication materials to support hospitals implementing the initiative.

The Maternal Anaemia Objective

The Obstetric & Maternity study day will continue to support the objective with a session sharing best practice in maternal anaemia management. The updates to the annual regional transfusion survey should also provide insight and benchmarking across the region, and the RTT are in discussion regarding an audit of maternal anaemia management specifically, at the end of the year.



The TP working group

The October 2021 TP meeting ratified the SW template policy for NMA Authorisation of Blood Components, the regional competencies for administration, collection and sampling and the updated ToRs. Feedback was given from TP 2021. The event included education sessions covering the role of the consultant clinical scientist and paediatric transfusion and consent.

A Transfusion 2024 overview was given at the June 21 interim meeting, along with MHRA inspection feedback.

As well as the usual business content, the February 2022 TP meeting provided valuable feedback for the update and review of the regional annual

National:

06-08 July 22

**SHOT Annual Symposium,
Brighton**

**BSMS Smarter Inventory
Management**

Dates & Details:

[Education events - Blood
Stocks Management Scheme](#)

13-15 September 2022

**BBTS Annual Conference,
SECC, Glasgow**

International:

4-8 June 2022

**ISBT Virtual International
Congress**

28 – 30 April 2022

**NATA Symposium, virtual
event**

NHSBT Training Courses:

Virtual NMA NHSBT Course

2022/23 Dates (via MS Teams)

26 - 29 September

17 - 21 October

6 - 9 December

7 - 10 March

**Details of all NHSBT Clinical &
Scientific Courses:**

[Clinical courses - Hospitals and
Science - NHSBT \(blood.co.uk\)](#)

[https://hospital.blood.co.uk/trainin
g/scientific-courses/](https://hospital.blood.co.uk/trainin
g/scientific-courses/)

transfusion survey, with good appetite to include the pending Quality Standard QI tool in development. The education part of this meeting included learning experiences from two trusts; feedback from an Emergo exercise and lessons learned when things go wrong from a lab/blood transfusion perspective.

The TP SharePoint continues to be an invaluable and well-used resource for discussion and document sharing.

The PBM working group



Two virtual meetings were held providing ongoing networking and regional collaboration. The interim meeting in June 2021 facilitated a robust discussion around setting up a cell salvage service and in January 2022, the group received an update on the UKCSAG and Dr Oliver Pietroni presented an analysis of one year's worth of cell salvage data from 8 trusts, covering c.6000 cases. Corporate education was received from Haemonetics on their leucocyte depletion filters.

The TLM/ User group:

The Southwest Transfusion Lab Managers meeting was held virtually on the 30th March, with 11 members attending. The group welcomed Charlotte Neville-Rutherford from Taunton and Jeni Davies from Royal Devon and Exeter. The meeting was opened with a presentation by Louise Jefferies (regional pathology workforce education lead) on how NHSE&I SW Pathology can support laboratories with training new and current staff, and what services they are providing. An open discussion and Q+A session followed with lots of interest generated from the members.

Following this, any recent UKAS/MHRA inspections were discussed to identify any learning points. As was the SHOT CAS alert. It was noted that the Blood Compliance Report has now been released, with a return date of 30th April, and that there are seven new questions this year.

A discussion on contingency planning was held, with a recommendation that all hospitals share a list of automated/manual grouping technologies used to assist hospitals undergoing any unexpected supply issues.

NPEX and NHSBT trials were discussed. A trial has been undertaken by NHSBT and BRI and Royal Cornwall Hospital are to pilot cffDNA reporting from IBGRL within the next few months.

Education



In addition to the education provided as part of the RTC meetings, and to the respective sub-groups the SW RTC hosted a national education event as part of the NBTC education programme. It attracted an audience of over 120 delegates. The session covered vaccine-induced thrombocytopenia from a clinical and laboratory perspective and whole blood use in the pre-hospital setting. Feedback was very positive, with the event scoring 3.63/4

2021/2022 also saw the relaunch of our regional scientific education programme: Transfusion Matters and Transfusion Still Matters. The sessions were designed to be run virtually with various learning approaches and interactive teaching methods aimed at junior and experienced BMS's. The course supplements the national BMSEDG events by



Other Transfusion Training Courses:

MSc Applied Transfusion and Transplantation – UWE.

<https://courses.uwe.ac.uk/C99SI2/applied-transfusion-and-transplantation-science>

New online short course 'Transfusion Medicine' Derby University

<https://www.derby.ac.uk/short-courses-cpd/online/transfusion-medicine/>

12wk 'Blood Transfusion' course

<http://www.biomedonline.co.uk/courses.html>

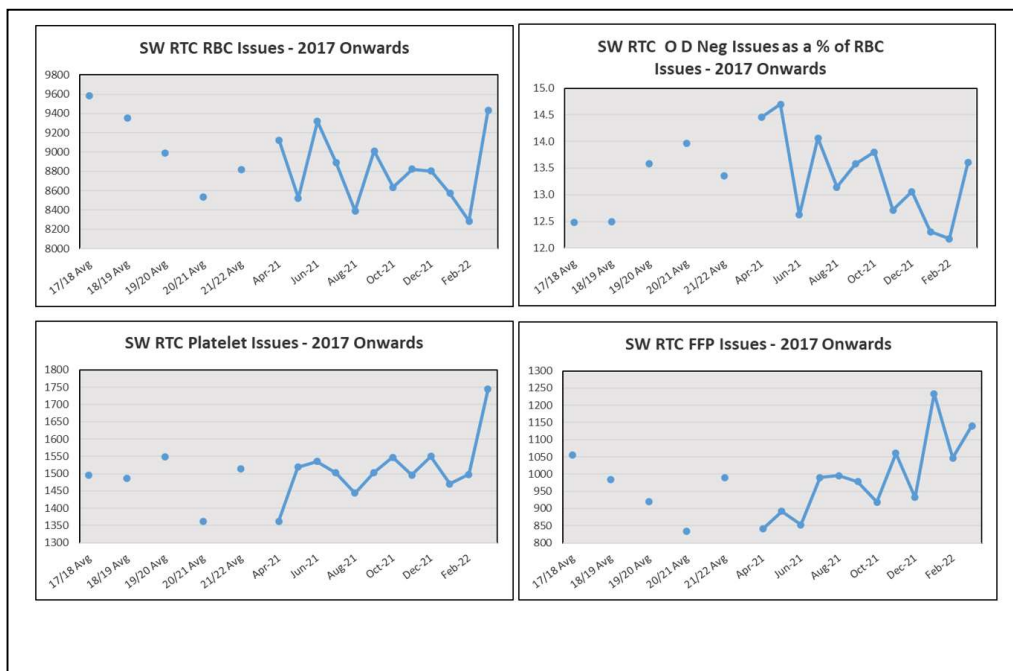
Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
MSc in Biomedical Science

FIND OUT MORE



covering core topics. After strong attendance and positive feedback, the courses will be held on an annual rotation, with topical updates to the programme. Please make sure you attend the correct course for your level of experience.

Regional Annual Issues:

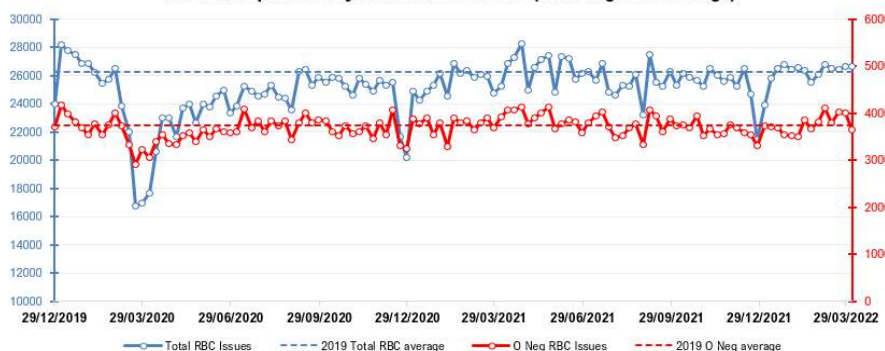


NHSBT update

NHSBT Component Update

Red Cell Issues (Total RBC & O Neg) represented as weekly issue total

NHSBT Hospital weekly red cell issue trends (including 2019 average)



Current National component issue & wastage trends (WAPI for last 12 months & current month)



*Wastage data includes all submissions up to and including Feb-22 reported to date (this figure may be an under representation)

Contact us

Jackie McMahon – RTC
Administrator

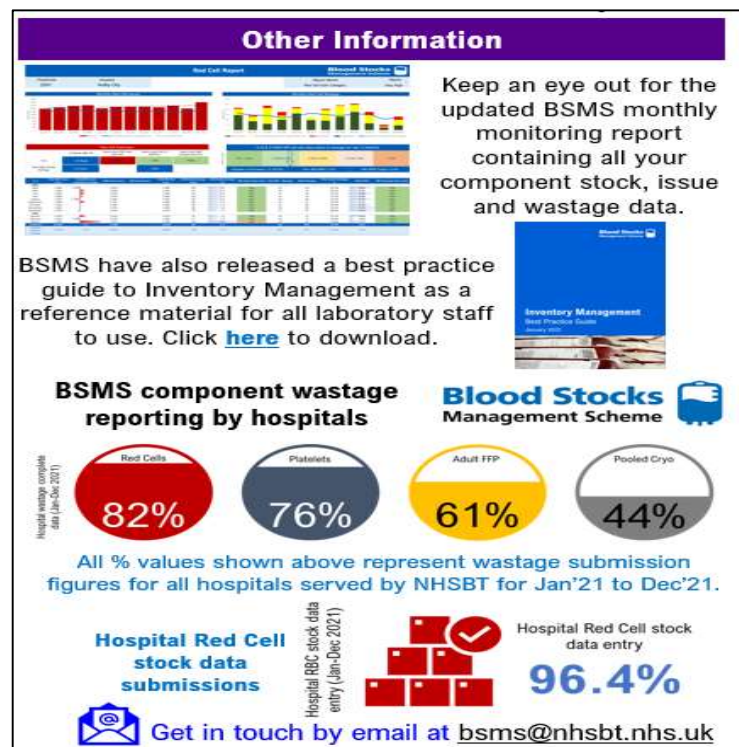
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 Blood stock levels remain challenging, in particular, levels of O positive and negative, and B negative red cells. A combination of greater than expected demand and the impact of COVID on both hospital admissions and blood donations continues to create a complex environment for blood supply and demand. Actions are in place to support increased and targeted collections and we appreciate your continued efforts to keep O negative use, in particular, at a minimum.

 The BSMS team have reviewed and updated the usage categories. These will be reflected on all new graphs and reports going forward and the PBM benchmarking summaries will be updated in due course.

 A full and complete understanding of component wastage is vital to maximise the potential of the blood supply chain. Please remember to report your wastage regularly through the VANESA portal.

In other news.....

 The PBM team are pleased to announce the launch of a new anaemia e-learning package focused on anaemia of chronic disease and its management in primary care. The component management e-learning package will be going live in the coming weeks, helping support BMS's and clinicians in appropriate component use and major haemorrhage incidents. They are available on ESR and e-learning for health and via the hospitals and sciences website.

New patient focused anaemia infographics have been launched. Available from the pre-op anaemia toolkit in the hospitals and sciences website. Ideal for supporting patient awareness of anaemia, it's symptoms and effective ways to take oral iron treatment.



IBGRL Molecular Diagnostics is changing the way the samples are processed. We are removing the freezing step and moving to a fully automated process. This will reduce errors associated with the manual process. We need you to:

1. Only place your laboratory barcodes on the referral form (not on the sample tube) or follow the guidance on acceptable placement of the hospital barcode label on sample tubes (see guidance below).
2. Please provide one ≥ 6 mL EDTA tube for this test

Transfusion & PBM publications

Copies of the articles are attached to the circulating email.



Tranexamic Acid in Patients Undergoing Noncardiac Surgery – POISE 3 Trial



Resuscitation with blood products in patients with trauma-related haemorrhagic shock receiving prehospital care (RePHILL): a multicentre, open-label, randomised, controlled, phase 3 trial



How do I perform cell salvage during vaginal obstetric haemorrhage?



Transfusion thresholds for guiding red blood cell transfusion



Donor genetic and nongenetic factors affecting red blood cell transfusion effectiveness



Effects of perioperative erythropoietin administration on acute kidney injury and red blood cell transfusion in patients undergoing cardiac surgery

WHAT'S NEXT?

The RTC:

- The next RTC event will be held virtually on the 25th May and continues with a mix of business and education. We will begin considering the format of future meetings including a mix of face to face and virtual and any potential for hybrid meetings.
- Build on the RTC hospital reports and how we utilise and present them
- The regional annual survey will be re-launched late summer/ early autumn. It will take the form of separate surveys so that respective sections can be completed by the most appropriate team member. We will continue to work to keep the data accessible, functional and useful
- Continued 1:1 follow up support with hospitals looking to implement O D + use in bleeding males and production of regional communication resources. In addition to the Maternity and Obstetric study we aim to carry out surveys on both major haemorrhage practice and maternal anaemia management to be planned and launched to review practice and inform any further work to support the regional objectives.

The PBM Group:

- Agree how to proceed and utilise the CS audit data, and where to go next with the auditing.
- Seek input for a regional project and/or identify education interests and requirements to be addressed within the group

The TP Group:

- Using the feedback from the February meeting begin planning the Oct face to face meeting and education session and consider options for the next regional collaboration project.
- Continue to hold informal catch-up calls to encourage networking, support and discussion.
- Ongoing development of the regional TP SharePoint, it's functionality and content.

Education:

- Continue with the mix of business and education for the RTC events based on committee feedback and suggestions.

- Deliver the Maternity and Obstetric focused education day in September as part of the NBTC national education programme and in support of the regional maternal anaemia objective
- Review of the Transfusion Matters programme and schedule both sessions to run over the next year with any required tweaks and updates.
- Begin planning the next standalone education events and prospective topics of interest

Have your say...

We all know how important the sharing of best practice and new ideas can be to keep improving patient care, so let us know what you are working on! Whether it's transfusion or PBM related, an audit, project, or success story, get in touch and share it with the region at one of our meetings or in the next newsletter. You can also contact us if you have ideas for topics or items for meetings or the newsletter
