


UK Red Alert Plans Meeting

Thursday, 2 November 2023 (15:00 – 16:00)
via MS Teams

FINAL MINUTES

Attended	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fateha Chowdhury (NHSBT) (FC) – Chair- Katie Hands (SNBTS) (KH)- Edwin Massey (WBS) (EM)- Mike Murphy (NHSBT) (MM)- Sue Katic (NHSBT) (SK) – Minutes	
Apologies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lise Estcourt (NHSBT) (LE)- Kathryn Maguire (NIBTS) (KM)	
	Minutes
1	<p>Welcome</p> <p>FC - no feedback received regarding minutes of previous meeting on 31 July 2023 - accepted as final.</p>
2	<p>Current Blood Stocks</p> <p>The meeting had been brought forward to discuss current stock levels in the UK. Scotland has also been experiencing problems with stock levels following Storm Babette, 2.8 days of O Neg stock at that stage. A communication was sent out to hospitals and Pre-Amber declared. Although stocks had levelled out, they are asking donors to come in to donate, unfortunately this means asking the same people.</p> <p>Wales has also issued Pre-Amber alert for O Neg and O Pos stock.</p> <p>Recently stock levels in England also at Pre-Amber levels; LE and FC had advised the senior management team at NHSBT (BOLT). They are currently working on increasing the stock levels so did not feel that a Pre-Amber alert was needed at the time.</p> <p>A communication was sent to hospitals on 23 October from NHSBT to advise that NHSBT could meet current demand but concerned that stock of O D and B D negative red cells was lower than we would like, with the potential to affect supply. Hospitals were asked to reduce stockholding where possible, but NOT to implement their EBMA, nor to cancel or delay surgery.</p> <p>This had been discussed at the PBM Component/Consultants Team meeting.</p>

	<p>An email had been sent to LE from Julie Staves on behalf of the National Transfusion Lab Managers Group to say that they felt that hospitals should be advised of the current situation and Pre-Amber declared. LE had forwarded this onto Gail Mifflin and Paul O'Brien, Head of Blood Supply.</p> <p>Action: The Group agreed to send a letter to the BOLT Team. FC will compose and send to the group for review. <i>Post meeting note – letter sent to group for review on 02.11.23 and subsequently emailed.</i></p> <p></p> <p>Letter re Pre-Amber alert 03.11.2023.pdf</p> <p>FC has asked for a link to be on the Bloodstocks page again to direct donors to the donation page / donation centres with vacant appointments as was done in the last Amber alert.</p> <p>KH reported that in Scotland they are going to try and do a piece of work looking at the impact of Pre-Amber notifications on demand, to see if they can demonstrate that it does have an impact. KH asked whether this could be a bigger piece of work throughout the UK or just do as a Scottish piece of work.</p> <p>Scotland also re-doing the integrated blood shortage plans. Wondering how to approach reducing blood bank stock holding as this is now completely different to when the guidance was initially written in 2005. FC said that for English hospitals the Blood Stocks Management Scheme had worked out the ISI for each of the groups/categories and sent that information over to the hospitals for them to target; this helped reduce stock holding. This is also used in Wales. Scotland is not in the BSMS but do have data on stockholding and issues so will be able to refer to that.</p> <p>EM proposed taking an action. The Welsh Blood Service is part of Velindre University NHS Trust, a cancer centre, blood centre and health technology Wales. EM will try to do a point audit on the impact of Royal College of Radiologist guidance around conservative transfusion looking at before and after the guidance came out.</p>
2	<p>Best Practice Paper</p> <p>The paper is almost ready to be submitted. FC will incorporate EM changes/additions and re-circulate to the group for final review prior to submission.</p> <p>Action: FC to circulate to the group for review once revised</p>
3	<p>NBTC blood indications app</p> <p>No update on the App at the meeting.</p> <p>Post meeting note: Email received from Anne Davidson with update. Circulated to the group with the minutes and will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
4	<p>Next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday, 29 November 2023 at 2pm</p>