



UK Red Alert Plans Group Meeting

Wednesday, 4 September 2024 (14:00 – 15:00) via MS Teams

FINAL MINUTES

Attended	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fateha Chowdhury, Consultant Haematologist (NHSBT) (FC) – Chair- Lise Estcourt, Medical Director Transfusion (NHSBT) (LE)- Katie Hands, Associate Medical Director (SNBTS) (KH)- Kathryn Maguire, Consultant in Transfusion Medicine (NIBTS) (KM)- Mike Murphy, Consultant Haematologist (NHSBT) (MM)- Indu Thakur, Blood Health Team Consultant (WBS) (IT)- Grace Brennan (NHSBT) (GB) - (Observer)- Sue Katic (NHSBT) (SK) – Minutes	
Apologies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Allameddine Allameddine, Medical Director (NIBTS) (AA)- Elisabeth Davies, Clinical Scientist (WBS) (ED)- Edwin Massey, Medical Director (WBS) (EM)	
Minutes	
1	<p>Welcome/Apologies</p> <p>FC - no feedback received regarding minutes of previous meeting on 22 May 2024 - accepted as final.</p> <p>FC welcomed Grace Brennan, PA to FC, observing.</p> <p>Actions from meeting on 22.05.2024:</p> <p>TOR: Nothing further received so TOR now finalised.</p> <p>Discussion followed on where documents from this group should be uploaded.</p> <p>Action: FC to ask Stephen Thomas whether they could go on JPAC website.</p>
2	<p>Stock Updates</p> <p><u>England Update (LE):</u></p> <p>UK Blood stocks look fine but still in Amber for O Red Cells and B Neg Red Cells as supporting hospitals affected by cyber-attack. No final IT solution for blood transfusion until end of September. DoH happy for NHSBT to continue in Amber Alert, will remain until assurance given from pathology team setting up IT solution.</p> <p>Concern as to what would happen if a cyber attack happened again in future. Hospital Trusts may have mentioned NHSBT in their continuity plans without the knowledge of NHSBT. LE recommended group should find out what continuity plans are for hospitals in their areas.</p> <p>MM asked what advice is being provided to hospitals to try to avoid these problems. Currently no advice but should be something coming out from the recommendations following the recent cyber-attack.</p> <p>FC has asked Haematology and Trauma Group and Emergency Planning Working Group to look at their business continuity plans. Also the EPRR that the EPWG wrote is being updated, FC will circulate to this group once done.</p>

	<p><u>Scotland Update:</u> Blood stocks doing well. In Pre-Amber for all three major blood groups for six weeks in June. Now improved and demand is down; donor sessions well filled.</p> <p><u>Northern Ireland Update:</u> Northern Ireland blood stocks stable; 7 days O Neg and 4 days A Pos. Sessions strong. Have recently changed the structure and now have an on line booking system. Platelets stable with no imports since April 2023.</p> <p><u>Wales Update:</u> Went into Pre-Amber for A Neg and AB Neg last week. Hope to come out of Pre-Amber today (04/09/24). Collections going well but with some staffing issues.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>NBTC blood indications app</p> <p>The Components App Currently owned by NHSBT/NBTC, used by all 4 nations. FC has had meetings with the developer of the App to look at the layout and worked through how red cells and platelets shortages would show on the app, need to add Plasma to this. Will only show in Amber or Red Alert, for the different regions. Should have a mock up by the end of September/early October to share.</p> <p>The PowerPoint slide showing proposed layout shown and discussed. FC asked for any suggestions or feedback to be sent to her asap so that this can be discussed with the developers.</p>  <p>Plan of layout of Blood Component AP</p> <p>Each nation to inform the developer if in Amber / Red so that can be updated on App so user can be directed to shortage plans, information on adjustments needed to clinical practice when in Amber or Red Alerts.</p> <p>Although NIBTS, SNBTS and WBS have updated their shortage plans recently, all agreed better to direct to the NBTC website as they currently do not have a specific website for this information. KH will forward a website link to FC when this is available.</p> <p>NIBTS and WBS will go back and discuss the App with their Teams to see how best to use/access.</p> <p>The App is currently in use by trainees across England and is promoted whenever training is given. This is also happening in Wales where it is used widely by junior frontline clinicians.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>Demand Management</p> <p>Given the situation with blood stocks, FC has been tasked to look at how to reduce demand. A business case is being prepared for NHSBT to potentially pay for transport for organisations to share stock. A successful pilot was carried out two years ago between Hammersmith and Northwick Park, Ro red cells were shared.</p>

	<p>FC has prepared generic SLA for hospitals to set up their own sharing scheme. Group requested this be shared – link below https://hospital.blood.co.uk/business-continuity/blood-stocks/</p> <p>Action: FC will send out the SLA template to the group. <i>Post meeting note – emailed following the meeting – details below:</i></p> <p> stock-sharing-agreement-template.docx</p> <p>A business case has been submitted to the senior management team at NHSBT, to manage wastage - form a team who could go into hospitals where wastage is high to help improve stock management.</p> <p>SNBTS projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remote and Rural Task Force, have had one meeting so far. Looking to work with rural and island blood banks who often hold large amounts of O Negative blood for emergencies which may be seldom used and therefore wasted. Looking at strategies to reduce wastage, stock levels, move blood around etc. 2) Order and Delivery Improvement Task Force - looking at the number of couriers to particular blood banks. Where high numbers of unscheduled deliveries are seen, will review delivery schedules to try to reduce them. Also looking at blood banks with particular wastage problems, working with them to reduce wastage.
<p>5</p>	<p>Next meeting: Wednesday, 27 November 2024 at 2pm</p>