



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ICS Education Slides

PCS Factsheets

Business Case

NHSLA

Autologous Transfusion Label

Editorial:

This is the sixth in a series of newsletters to update cell salvage users with the activities of the UK Cell Salvage Action Group.

For further information on the activities of the group contact:

Joan Jones

joan.jones3@wales.nhs.uk

Catherine Howell

catherine.howell@nhsbt.nhs.uk

We would welcome any feedback on the content of this newsletter.

**Intraoperative Cell Salvage (ICS) Education Slides**

Following the success of the Intraoperative ICS Education Workbook, the UK Cell Salvage Action Group (UKCSAG) are continuing to develop resources to support the training of staff in this technique. Theory training for ICS is often overlooked and the education workbook was developed to allow staff to undertake self-directed learning for this aspect of the training.

Many Organisations already carry out “teacher-led” classroom theory sessions for ICS training. This is a valuable teaching method because it allows informal assessment of the trainees understanding of the theory through questioning, group work tasks etc. Used in conjunction with the education workbook, this kind of training can ensure that trainees have sufficient theory knowledge to allow them to carry out ICS in a safe and appropriate way.

To help Organisations implement this kind of teacher-led classroom session, the UKCSAG have developed a series of education slides that can be used in conjunction with education workbook. The slides follow the format of the education workbook and are designed to *promote discussion and interactive teaching*, rather than as a presentation or lecture. To allow the flexibility of including information relating to areas of local protocol, surgical speciality etc, blank slides are available that can be modified and used along side the UKCSAG slides. For example, the trainer may want to promote discussion on troubleshooting, and could develop a slide with a scenario for discussion on.

As with all UKCSAG resources, the education slides can be downloaded from the Better Blood Transfusion Toolkit:

[www.transfusionsguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionsguidelines.org.uk)

We would also like to encourage feedback on the slides to ensure that they are a useful teaching resource.

**Request for Information on Quality Control Procedures**

The UK Cell Salvage Action group is currently developing a draft policy for Quality Control for ICS. If you would be willing to share information about your current quality control procedures with the group, please contact John Faulds: [john.faulds@rcht.cornwall.nhs.uk](mailto:john.faulds@rcht.cornwall.nhs.uk)

## Postoperative Cell Salvage (PCS) Factsheets

The UK Cell Salvage Action Group (UKCSAG) are currently developing resources to support PCS. The first of these resources will be a series of factsheets similar to the factsheets already available for Intraoperative Cell Salvage. The areas covered will include:

- Contra-indications & Cautions: to ensure that autologous postoperative cell salvaged blood is used safely and appropriately in line with recognised guidelines and existing evidence
- Collection: setting up and activation of collection device
- Reinfusion: labelling & documentation, expiration times, filters and continuation of drainage
- Administration: prescription, patient ID checking, observations and documentation
- Staff responsibility: staff roles at each stage (preoperative, theatres, recovery and ward)

Look out for the PCS factsheets at [www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk) in the near future.

## Business Case

The UKCSAG generic Business Case, to support organisations who would like to introduce or expand the use of ICS, is now available on the Better Blood Transfusion Toolkit ([www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk)). The Business Case provides background information to support the introduction of ICS and will guide hospitals as to the options and financial considerations which should be addressed in order to complete a robust proposal.

## NHS Litigation Authority (NHSLA)

The NHS Litigation Authority (NHSLA) was established to administer the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts (CNST). The promotion of good risk management, governance and assurance are integral components of the NHSLA schemes. Membership of the schemes is voluntary and open to all NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts and PCTs in England. Funding is done on a 'pay as you go' non-profit basis and organisations receive a discount on their scheme contributions where they can demonstrate compliance with the relevant NHSLA risk management standards. The outputs from the UKCSAG help support the provision of integrated and effective services for patients and can be used as a basis for meeting NHSLA standards (governance, competent and capable workforce, safe environment, clinical care, learning from experience) at all levels.

## Autologous Transfusion Label

Following the successful pilot and subsequent review of the Autologous Transfusion Label (right), the UK Cell Salvage Action Group in conjunction with UK manufacturers of Intraoperative Cell Salvage and Postoperative Cell Salvage equipment, have launched the UK roll out of the label. The labels are available from your manufacturer along with information on the use of the label and training materials to support its implementation in your Organisation. The training materials can also be downloaded from the Better Blood Transfusion Toolkit ([www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk)).

**AUTOLOGOUS TRANSFUSION**  
**Untested Blood**  
For AUTOLOGOUS use only  
*This section should be completed and affixed to the reinfusion bag/system*

Unique patient ID No .....

Last name .....

First name .....

DOB .....

Operator Name (Print) .....

Expires/Reinfuse by: Date ..... Time .....  
(Expiry time should be calculated in accordance with national & manufacturer guidelines and local policy)

Type of autologous blood:

Intra-op Cell Salvage (Washed/Unwashed\*)

Post-op Cell Salvage (Washed/Unwashed\*)

Other .....

(\*Delete as appropriate)

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**Transfusion Record**  
*This section should be completed and affixed in patient's clinical record*

**Autologous Transfusion**

Unique patient ID No .....

Full Name .....

Type of autologous blood:

Intra-op Cell Salvage (Washed/Unwashed\*)

Post-op Cell Salvage (Washed/Unwashed\*)

Other .....

(\*Delete as appropriate)

Complete the following each time the reinfusion bag/system is connected/reconnected to the patient

|                                |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Checked & administered by      |  |  |  |
| Reinfusion started (date/time) |  |  |  |

Total volume reinfused .....mls

Version 2

The UK Cell Salvage Action Group are continuously developing resources to help support cell salvage in the UK. If you feel there is an area of cell salvage in need of support, please contact the UK Cell Salvage Action Group with your suggestions.

The work from the UK Cell Salvage Action Group and contact details for group members are available on the DH Better Blood Transfusion Toolkit website - [www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk](http://www.transfusionguidelines.org.uk)