West Midlands Regional Transfusion Committee
Re-Survey of Pre-Operative Assessment Clinics 2013

Survey Guidance Tool

We are asking that a questionnaire is completed for each hospital site within the West Midlands region.

We suggest that you read through the questionnaire first to familiarise yourself with the questions being asked.

The questionnaire is separated into two parts:
**Part 1** – the questions in this part of the survey relate to the overarching pre-operative assessment policies and practices in place within your hospital. Only one return is required per hospital.

**Part 2** – the questions in this part of the survey relate to the individual pre-operative assessment clinics (POACs) provided by your hospital. One return is required per clinic.

Both sections of this questionnaire should be completed by a member of the pre-operative assessment team who has sufficient knowledge to complete the questions.

Forms can be completed either electronically or by hand.

Forms from different clinics can be returned separately.

**Part 1**

Please complete both name of Hospital and the name of the Trust this hospital belongs to.

We are aware that hospital practices change over time, and so questions 2, 3 and 4 are aimed at ascertaining whether there are plans to introduce, expand or remove services in the known future.

Questions 5, 6 and 7 ask about whether the Trust or Hospital has a named pre-operative assessment lead, and if there is, whether they are invited to sit on the Hospital Transfusion Committee.

Question 8 asks about whether you have an overarching Trust / Hospital-wide policy for pre-operative assessment, and if you do when it was last reviewed.


These guidelines made a number of key recommendations, and the questionnaire asks whether you have implemented and are therefore compliant with these recommendations.

You may be only partially compliant to some of these recommendations (e.g. compliant in some but not all clinics / specialities). If this is the case, please tick ‘partial’ and provide additional information.

Question 10 is looking at whether you also assess patients who are due to have surgery in another Trust or hospital (referred to as the Hub hospital) and what arrangements you have in place should you have any concerns about the patient, and which laboratory blood samples for these patients are sent to.

There is then a section for any additional comments (optional).
Part 2

Please complete both name of Hospital and the name of the Trust this hospital belongs to. Also the clinic name, and details of the surgical speciality this clinic covers.

This questionnaire is looking at what happens routinely in your clinic.

Our aim is to look review how each surgical speciality manages their patients.

Question 1 asks how many patients have been seen in the last financial year. This can be an approximation rounded up / down to the nearest figure.

Question 2 asks on average, in routine (non urgent) surgery, how long before surgery are patients assessed. This should be a nominal figure (i.e. what you aim for). You do not need to do an audit to provide this answer. Please indicate whether your response is in days or weeks.

Question 3 asks who are routine, otherwise uncomplicated patients initially assessed by.

Question 4 is asking whether you have hospital / clinic policies or guidelines for the assessment and management of pre-operative anaemia – please answer yes or no to all questions.

Question 5 is asking who initially reviews the haemoglobin results, whilst question 6 asks how long after the clinic visit are results usually reviewed (for routine, non-urgent patients).

Question 7 is looking at whether the person who initially reviews the results has the authority to make referrals or initiate treatment, and if not, who do they usually refer these results to?

Question 8 and 9 is looking at what haemoglobin triggers are used in your clinic – when would the person who initially reviews the results take action, and is there a different ‘trigger’ in patients with known co-morbidities?

Question 10 asks you to state whether any treatments for anaemia are initiated by the POAC (either the patients are given a prescription by the POAC, or an appointment is made for treatment as a day-case / in-patient).

Question 11 asks where referrals for the investigation or treatment of anaemia would generally be made to.

If any additional actions are taken by your clinic if the haemoglobin is low, please state for question 12.

Question 13 is looking at when certain drug therapies which can affect haemostasis during surgery would usually be stopped in otherwise uncomplicated patients.

Question 14 asks about the use of iron therapy in patients with known / likely ongoing blood loss.

There is then a section for any additional comments (optional).

If you have any queries or need to discuss this further, please contact Suzy Biggs (e-mail: suzette.biggs@nhsbt.nhs.uk, Tel: 0121 278 4001)

Thank you for completing this questionnaire

Deadline for responses: Friday 17th May 2013