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2. For Information

2.1 National Comparative Audit Programme launches QuickAudit

QuickAudit is a series of instant audit tools devised by John Grant-Casey, Project Manager for the National Comparative Audit of Blood Transfusion. They have been developed specially for the audit programme. Clinical Audit works most effectively if the right information is collected, quickly analysed and quickly fed back to the healthcare professionals who have been audited. Local and particularly national audits can take some time to report, so healthcare practitioners may move on or the original impetus gained during the audit may be lost. A problem that many Transfusion Practitioners have is that they do not have the time, or the expertise with software, to enter data and create reports. QuickAudit provides the answer: it is an automated clinical audit reporting system. So far there are QuickAudit tools available for auditing aspects of patient safety as they apply to blood transfusion. As each National Comparative Audit reports in the future, we will provide QuickAudit tools if we think they will be helpful. Hospitals will be able to access the QuickAudit tools through a new "personal audit homepage". Full information was sent to hospitals on Monday 9th January.

John Grant-Casey, National Comparative Audit Project Manager

2.2 Hospital Red Cell Budgets to support the Integrated Blood Shortage Plan

From February 2012 the hospital red cell budgets will be sent to Transfusion Laboratory Managers monthly via email. The emailed budget will replace the paper copy currently circulated quarterly.

If the Transfusion Laboratory Manager is not the designated contact for the red cell budget please email bsms@nhsbt.nhs.uk with the name, role and email address of the required contact.

Sue Cotton, Blood Stocks Management Scheme Manager

2.3 NHSBT Adverse Event & Reaction reporting requirements

The Hospitals and Science website has been updated to improve the links to NHSBT's adverse event and reaction reporting requirements.

The [Requests for investigation of Adverse Events & Reactions](#) page gives users an outline of the general reporting process when NHSBT and hospitals are involved in the investigation of adverse events or reactions and has links to the required forms. This page can be accessed from:

- the Products page (<http://hospital.blood.co.uk/products/index.asp>)
- the Safe & Appropriate Use of Blood page (http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/index.asp)
- the introductions to RCI, H&I, and Transfusion Microbiology on the Diagnostic Services page (http://hospital.blood.co.uk/diagnostic_services/index.asp)

Where further investigation is required by RCI or H&I, request forms can be found at:
(http://hospital.blood.co.uk/library/request_forms/aer/rffioaer/index.asp)

The [Requests for investigation of Adverse Events & Reactions](#) page also links to information on the NHSBT processes for investigating suspected bacterial and viral contamination:

- [Cases of suspected bacterial contamination](#)
- [Cases of suspected viral and non bacterial contamination](#)

Additionally, this page has links to policies and clinical guidelines relating to adverse events and reactions from NHSBT and other organisations:

- [Clinical guidelines and policies from NHSBT relating to adverse events and reactions reporting](#)
- [Guidelines and advice from other organisations.](#)

Erika Rutherford, Customer Service Manager

2. For Information

2.4 Integrated Transfusion Services (ITS)

ITS, the programme of service developments and new initiatives for improving the blood supply chain and the provision of reference serology, is now approaching the end of the analysis stage.

The ITS Project Board at NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) has worked with several hospitals over the last few months to build the clearest picture possible of the current blood supply chain and how we can work together to improve it in the future.

All the data collected in the analysis stage is currently being examined and will inform the next steps for NHSBT and the wider NHS in testing and implementing ITS models.

Several hospitals have already contacted NHSBT to express an interest in participating in pilots, but no decision on where these will be and what form they will take has yet been made. If pilots are to be taken forward a formal mechanism will be established so that hospitals can express their interest to take part showing their suitability against the criteria that will be set for each pilot.

This next phase will commence in early 2012 after the NHSBT Board has had an opportunity to consider the analysis and make decisions on the feasibility of taking forward elements of ITS including pilots with hospitals.

During the next stage, we will feed back the analysis to all hospitals and other stakeholders. Throughout this process, the confidentiality of data provided by specific hospitals will be strictly maintained.

We will update you as soon as possible after the Board meeting with the next steps and continue to keep you involved and informed as the ITS project progresses.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries in the interim teresa.allen@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Teresa Allen, Assistant Director – Customer Service

2.5 Patient Consent for Blood Transfusion - Standardised Information Resource Document

At their public meeting on 12th October 2011, the Advisory Committee for the Safety of Blood Tissues and Organs (SaBTO) launched a series of recommendations regarding patient consent for transfusion.

The SaBTO Consent Working Group have developed a Standardised Information Resource which provides guidance for clinical Staff regarding consent for transfusion. The document can be downloaded from the Better Blood Transfusion Toolkit (patient and public involvement / consent for blood transfusion section):

<http://www.transfusionsguidelines.org.uk/Index.aspx?Publication=BBT&Section=22&pageid=1257>

Details of the SaBTO consultation and summary of the recommendations can be downloaded from the Department of Health website:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh.digitalassets/@dh/@ab/documents/digitalasset/dh_130715.pdf

For further information please contact Catherine Howell, Chief Nurse Patient Services, catherine.howell@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Catherine Howell, Chief Nurse Patient Services

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2.6 Platelet educational resources

A variety of platelet educational resources are now available to help promote appropriate use and reduce wastage and can be accessed via the Hospitals and Science website at:

http://hospital.blood.co.uk/safe_use/platelet_education_resources/

- a) Platelet transfusion fact sheet for doctors and senior nurses
- b) Blood Stocks Management Scheme's Platelet Stockholding Algorithm
- c) Poster to help reduce double-dose platelets for prophylactic transfusions
- d) Key findings from the National Comparative Audit of platelets 2010
- e) National Indications codes - revised October 2011

If you require any hard copies of the Poster please contact Customer Services in Oxford on Tel: 01865 381042 or via Email: nhsbt.customerservices@nhsbt.nhs.uk Please include the number of copies required along with your full mailing address.

Other tools in development include an edition of Transfusion Matters focussing on platelets and an information leaflet for patients.

A series of workshops titled 'Let's Talk Platelets' have been organised to enable suppliers and users to discuss issues relating to platelets including platelet stock holding, issue and wastage data, appropriate use, BMS empowerment to challenge requests and timing of NHSBT deliveries.

Initial workshops will be held at:

- Liverpool Blood Centre, 30th January, 2012 - contact Jayne.addison@nhsbt.nhs.uk or Tony.davies@nhsbt.nhs.uk for further information.
- James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough, 20th February, 2012 - contact Denise.watson@nhsbt.nhs.uk for further information.
- Don Valley House, Sheffield, 5th March, 2012 - contact Kath.hearnshaw@nhsbt.nhs.uk or Anne.davidson@nhsbt.nhs.uk for further information.

Further workshops will be held throughout 2012, details to follow.

Rebecca Gerrard, Head of Better Blood Transfusion

3.

Training & Education

3.1 Training & Education events and courses

A full list of NHSBT training events, which are open to hospital personnel, is available on the following area of our website:

<http://hospital.blood.co.uk/training/index.asp>

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact your local Customer Service Manager and or Transfusion Liaison Nurse/Practitioner using the details below.

For further information please visit the NHS Blood and Transplant hospitals website on:

<http://hospital.blood.co.uk>

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