

NI Transfusion Committee

Terms of Reference

1 REMIT

- 1.1 The overall objective is to promote good transfusion practice by providing a framework to:
- Improve the safety of blood transfusion practice
 - Improve the appropriateness of clinical blood transfusion
 - Explore and facilitate the implementation of methods to reduce the need for allogeneic blood transfusion
 - Promote the highest quality and consistency in transfusion practice
 - Educate staff involved in blood transfusion practice
 - Drive up standards for training and assessment of staff involved in blood transfusion practice
- 1.2 Consult with national groups in the development of guidelines for best practice in transfusion medicine
- 1.3 Identify service development needs and provide assistance with contingency planning for blood shortages
- 1.4 Identify and respond to patients' concerns and perceptions about the provision of transfusion services.
- 1.5 Facilitate communications between NI Blood Transfusion Service (NIBTS) and hospitals concerning in transfusion practice.
Support the work of Trust Transfusion Committees and Teams and Haemovigilance Practitioners
- 1.6 Provide advice to the Chief Medical Officer on aspects of transfusion practice

2. SCOPE

The Committee will:

- 2.1 Take account of transfusion practice in NI Healthcare Trusts
- 2.2 Maintain links and collaborative working with the Better Blood Transfusion Network and other bodies involved in transfusion practice in the United Kingdom and in other countries in the EU

- 2.3 Promote the safe, appropriate and effective use of blood components, blood products and transfusion alternatives

3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

- 3.1 Membership of the NITC will include:
Chairs of Trust Transfusion Committees, Hospital Blood Bank Managers, senior Haemovigilance Practitioners from all 5 NI Healthcare Trusts
Senior Healthcare professionals with expertise or a specialist interest in transfusion practice in NI
Chief Executive and Medical Director of NIBTS
Senior medical representative in the NI DHSSPS
- 3.2 The Committee will maintain close links with representatives of NI healthcare in the Community, such as Associate Medical Directors of General Practice and with patient and public health bodies, such as the Patient and Client Council and the National Patient Safety Agency
- 3.3 The Committee will liaise with NI bodies responsible for the provision of education, such as Queens University, University of Ulster and NI Medical and Dental Training Agency, to promote education and training in transfusion practice in NI

4. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 The Chair and Medical Audit Lead will be appointed by the DHSSPS NI (see Appendix for job descriptions)
- 4.2 Membership of the Committee will be reviewed annually by NI Healthcare Trusts
- 4.3 There will be 3 scheduled meetings of the Committee each year
- 4.4 The secretariat for the Committee will be provided by NIBTS
- 4.5 The Committee Chair will produce Annual Reports of the Committee's activity and work plan implementation for the Chief Medical Officer

5. OUTCOME MEASURES

- 5.1 Demonstration of safer transfusion practice in NI, including a reduction in transfusion associated mortality and serious adverse events, using data from national (e.g. SHOT), and regional audits
- 5.2 Demonstration of more appropriate use of blood components and blood products i.e. compliance with guidelines for clinical transfusion practice and implementation of BBT3 (NI)
- 5.3 Reduction in patient exposure to donated blood components and blood products by implementation of a regional patient blood management programme and appropriate management of anaemia

5.4 Reports of blood component use and wastage in NI Healthcare Trusts

5.5 Reports on patients' perceptions about the provision of transfusion services in NI.

May 2014