



Transfusion Professionals Network, Special Interest Group of the ANZSBT

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

March 2016

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2016.

The annual general meeting of the Transfusion Professionals network occurred at HAA in Perth 20th October 2015 and was attended by a small number of members. At this meeting Liz Thrift and Fiona King announced their intention to step down from the roles of secretary and chair of the group. We would like to thank Liz and Fiona for their hard work during their time in these positions and look forward to their ongoing support as representatives for New Zealand.

The new chair and secretary are Adrienne Harper and Chris Akers from Victoria, who will share the positions and workload. Adrienne comes from a scientific background and has been working in the area for 10 years, initially in NSW as a Hospital Scientist, then in the UK at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust where she started in the Transfusion laboratory before moving into the Transfusion Practitioner role. After returning to Australia she has held positions at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre as Transfusion Quality Officer before joining Blood Matters as Education Co-ordinator. She now shares her working week between Blood Matters and St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne.

Chris comes from a nursing background and has been in the Transfusion nurse role at the Alfred since 2005, before joining the Blood Matters team in 2014 as the Transfusion nurse and continues to work at both sites.

The current TP steering group consists of the following members:

Area	Name
ACT	Maria Burgess
New South Wales	Sally Francis
New Zealand	Liz Thrift
New Zealand Blood Service	Fiona King
Northern Territory	Julie Domanski
Queensland	Natasha Kearny
South Australia	Barbara Parker
Tasmania	Dawn Richardson
Victoria	Chris Akers & Adrienne Harper
Western Australia	Angie Monk
Australian Blood Service	Bev Quested
ANZSBT Council	To be announced

The steering group meet 4 times a year to discuss current issues and determine the focus of the group and activities.

Each member provides a report on activities undertaken in their jurisdiction and on the following page is a summary of these reports.

ACT:

Work is ongoing on PBM projects including work on iron deficiency in obstetrics.

Managing the IVIg transition process. Involved in a project with Octapharma relating to IVIg.

NSW:

Managing the IVIg transition process and use of Blood Star.

Auditing implementation of PBM programs set up in health services and piloting a program in obstetrics.

SA:

Ongoing support to integrate/sustain Blood Link Nurses across regions

VIC:

The pre-operative anaemia management audit results are currently being analysed and a report written.

Information on the new IVIg products that will be available in 2016 has been developed, with an example guideline developed for all transfusion nurses/trainers/officers, available on the Blood Matters website.

Nine health services have had their blood budget devolved to the health service rather than being held centrally. This will be a virtual budget for 2015-16 to help inform future arrangements.

WA:

WAnTEd; working towards benchmarking audit for staff transfusion awareness
Fibrinogen Concentrate Trial in Obstetric Haemorrhage

NZ:

The National IVIG audit has been completed and is currently being collated.

The next national audit is the use of Prothrombinex in New Zealand.

Blood Service (Australia):

Work is ongoing on the calendar of events. A new e-learning adverse event course is in development.

The red cell prescriber app is ready and a platelet app is in development.

Transfusion Update will occur 2-3 June 2016 in Melbourne.

Upcoming Conferences:

Transfusion Update 2-3 June, Melbourne

Annual TORC & MTR Investigators meetings, 17 June, Melbourne

HAA 13-16 November, Melbourne

What do you think of the newsletter? Is there anything you would like to see in the newsletter ?

What would you like the newsletter to be named?

Any comments/ ideas/articles, please send to

cakers@redcrossblood.org.au or to your state representative.