

Winter is upon us as we prepare for a number of conferences that will be of interest to Transfusion Professionals. To begin, Transfusion Update went ahead in Melbourne on June 2-3. This was, in part, a celebration of Dr Tony Keller's contributions to the safety of blood during his long career with the Blood Service. Additionally there was a focus on contemporary transfusion practice and the challenges it faces, especially in emergency situations. The sessions were rewarding and well attended.

The Blood Service has begun preparing for Transfusion Update 2017, which will be held in Sydney at the end of April. Keep the date in mind for next year

HAA 2016 is going ahead from November 13 to 16, in Melbourne. The draft program lists a plethora of sessions of interest to Transfusion Professionals and can be found here: <http://www.haa2016.com/program/program-schedule/?conferencedateid=96>

HESTA Nurse of the Year

We are very pleased to announce two of our Transfusion Professionals Steering Group members were nominated for the Nurse of the Year awards: Maria Burgess from the ACT and Angie Monk from WA. Both are very busy in the PBM field and doing some really amazing work. Well done to both Maria and Angie on their nominations, and congratulations to Angie who took out the prestigious title!



What's happening around Australia and New Zealand?:

ACT: Obstetric Antenatal Haemoglobin Assessment and Optimisation for First, second and third trimester guidelines have been released.

The Canberra Iron Symposium – From Primary to Tertiary Care went ahead on April 30. 96 delegates (including 24 GPs) attended this very successful day—the feedback has been very positive.

NZ: Lippincott Blood Transfusion procedures and policies continue to be adapted to fit within the NZ framework.

The prospective audit on MTP activations over the year 1 July '15- 30 June '16).is being undertaken in the 8 largest NZ hospitals

SA: A collaborative project between a private hospital, the BloodSafe program and a private transfusion service provider is underway. This collaborative is reviewing the management of critical bleeding events in the associated hospital

BloodSafe: A Symposium for SA nurses is scheduled for July 28, 2016

This symposium is aimed at nursing staff who:

- have a basic knowledge about blood & transfusion safety
- have Standard 7 as a portfolio for accreditation
- have completed a local BloodSafe Transfusion Education Day

Vic: The 2015 audit of preoperative anaemia assessment and management is complete and it is expected that the report will be available shortly.

PTO

Blood Matters facilitated 2 EN study days in April and May this year. These were both well attended and well received with the majority of delegates belonging to Private health services across Metropolitan Melbourne.

WA: West Australian Health services continue with their robust audit schedules covering all aspects of transfusion practice.

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital has seen a 50% reduction in patient ID related clinical incidents following the introduction of a Patient ID poster campaign.

WAnTEd (WA Transfusion Education group) members are organising a WA transfusion study day in association with the Blood Service. The study day is scheduled to go ahead in August 2016 at the Department of Health, Royal Street, Perth.

Upcoming Conferences:

HAA 13-16 November, Melbourne

Please note: The Transfusion Practitioner Annual General Meeting will be held at the conference on the **Tuesday 15th November during the lunch break**. All are welcome as we would appreciate your input to determine the direction of the group over the next year

ISBT: 3-8 September, Dubai

The International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) has formed a Transfusion Practitioner (TP) Forum. This forum is a subcommittee of the ISBT Clinical Working party.

ISBT see the TP role as a very important one, and as such have established the TP Forum Steering Committee. Linley Bielby (Program Manager, Blood Matters, Vic) has been appointed as Chair of the steering committee which has been busy planning the first dedicated series of TP sessions to be held at an ISBT congress. At the Dubai congress (September 3-8) there will be three dedicated TP sessions covering patient safety, best use of data to change practice, and managing blood use appropriately.

The steering committee is also hosting a networking afternoon tea to promote interaction and information sharing. Further information can be found here:

<http://www.isbtweb.org/dubai/scientific-programme/>

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

Any comments/ ideas/articles, please send to cakers@redcrossblood.org.au or to your state rep-

Your Transfusion Professional Representatives

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