

HAA 2017

For those who did not have the opportunity to attend HAA this year we have some of the highlights from the program.

This year was the first year for the Transfusion Professionals to have a symposium, which occurred on the Tuesday morning. A big thanks to Debbie Pinchon who worked hard to make sure this occurred.

The symposium began with committee members describing where they work and the projects they are undertaking. This was followed by three presentations:

- ◆ Chris Akers presented the Alfred Hospitals' pre-op Hb optimisation algorithm, which has contributed, with other PBM activities, to a reduced transfusion rate in their elective orthopaedic patients.
- ◆ Daniel Behan from St Vincent's Sydney presented the work they had done with the cardiac surgery group to reduce their crossmatch to transfusion ratio.
- ◆ Rebecca McLean from Fiona Stanley Hospital in WA presented work they had undertaken to improve the cold chain for blood supplied to theatre.

After each presentation there was time for discussion of what others were doing in this space and questions for the presenter.

This year saw two prizes awarded to the speakers, one Transfusion Professionals free communication Award in Patient Blood Management and the other Transfusion Professionals free communication Award in Clinical Transfusion Practice. These were awarded to Rebecca and Chris –Congratulations!

We hope to have a number of presentations to choose from next year as we know you are all working passionately within your health services to improve transfusion practice and safety. We encourage you to share these im-

provements by submitting abstracts outlining them in 2018.

In the ANZSBT stream we heard from a great international speaker, Mark Fung, who discussed classifying transfusion reactions and the difficulties around this as well as presenting on massive transfusion. The following day there was an interesting debate on managing massive blood loss –formula driven vs point of care testing for blood product provision.

There were a number of interesting talks about RhD Immunoglobulin and the success of prophylaxis, as well as where we are heading in the future. This includes non-invasive testing of the foetal blood group to avoid unnecessary use of RhD Ig when the foetus is also Rh negative.

Neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia was also discussed and work is ongoing to provide prophylaxis, like RhD, for women with pregnancies at risk, however this is still some time off.

Gemma Crighton, from the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne discussed the incidence of reactions to Intragam 10 they had seen since the change of product. Some of these reactions appear to be more specific to the paediatric population with hypertension with bradycardia and allergic reactions more common.

The results of the TRANSFUSE study looking to see if there was a difference in older versus freshest blood were presented. There were no differences in primary or secondary outcomes for the trial. Interestingly there appears to have been more febrile reactions described with fresher blood products.

Discussion of CMV seronegative versus leucoreduced blood products for protection of those at risk of CMV transmission was dis-

cussed. Although most would agree these are equivalent in protection, still most health services request seronegative products for their patients. Also discussed was the fact that breast milk is a source of infection for newborns. Pasteurisation in milk banks eliminates this risk.

The Ruth Sanger oration was presented by Peter Flanagan, National Medical Director of the New Zealand Blood Service. He spoke on the issues around self sufficiency in our blood supply, particularly in relation to plasma-derived blood products and that we may be unable to maintain this for a number of reasons.

All the presenters did a wonderful job and there were many interesting subjects covered. The posters were also interesting to see and provoked lots of discussion at the poster viewing session.

Transfusion Professionals AGM

The AGM was held on the Tuesday lunchtime of the conference with approximately 20 attendees.

Next year the secretariat will change with Angie Monk and Sue Darby from WA taking on the Chair and Secretary roles.

Trudi Verrall from BloodSafe e-learning was welcomed to the committee. We must also say good-bye and thanks to Julie Domanski from NT. Julie has moved to a new position and is no longer the Transfusion Nurse in NT.

What's happening around Australia and New Zealand?

Queensland: Work is ongoing to promote uptake of the Antenatal Anaemia Management program with plans to take this program to the state-wide guidelines committee. Funding has been granted for an iron deficiency midwife project role at Toowoomba Hospital.

Western Australia: WA health Services have been undergoing re-accreditation.

Victoria: Iatrogenic anaemia audit is complete, including report. This is available on the Blood Matters website.

The next audit will cover the use of O negative red cells.

2015/16 STIR report will be released shortly. Blood Matters has received funding for a project nurse for 12 months FT. The first project covered will be support for the implementation of SCIg programs across Victorian health services.

BloodSafe eLearning: BloodSafe e-learning are in the process of writing education on PBM module 6: Neonatal and Paediatrics. It is estimated that this will take the majority of the first half of 2018.

Key events:

ISBT: 28th Regional Congress, Guangzhou China, 25-28 November 2017

ISBT: 35th International Congress, Toronto Canada, 2-5 June 2018

IHN: (International Haemovigilance Network), Manchester England, 10-11 July 2018 followed by the SHOT annual symposium 12 July 2018

HAA: Next year HAA will be renamed Blood 2018 and will be held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, 21-24 October –call for abstracts open 10 April and close 28 June –get ready now!

Do you have an interesting case study?

If so please write up a synopsis of what happened to share with other Transfusion Professionals in the newsletter.

Send case studies to Chris Akers email: cakers@redcrossblood.org.au

Are you ready for ISBT128 labelling?

The Blood Service will be adopting the Information Standard for Blood and Transplant (ISBT 128) for all blood products in **June 2018**. ISBT 128 is an internationally recognised standard for blood component labelling and is the best practice. Introduction will provide many benefits such as improved traceability and safety for patients. ISBT 128 will result in a number of changes to the component label and existing processes. Two key changes to note are the changes to the Donation Identification Number and the Product Code.

The Donation Identification Number (DIN) is increasing to 13 alpha numeric characters with additional Flag characters (00) and a Manual Check Character. The DIN consists of the Facility Identification Number (FIN), year and 6-digit sequence. The FIN provides worldwide traceability of where products are manufactured and the year embedded is the element which reduces the risk of duplication for 100 years. It is recommended that all characters of the DIN plus the Manual Check character are recorded when it is manually transcribed or entered into an IT system by Health Practitioners.

How and where the DIN is used and stored requires consideration to accommodate all characters and to minimise the risk of transcription errors.

The Product Codes will also change to internationally registered product codes with the introduction of ISBT128. The Product Code will consist of 8 alphanumeric characters that also encode additional information to provide greater transparency regarding the manufacture of the product. The Product Code contains the product group, component type, donation type and whether it is a split component from a parent pack.

The name of products will remain the same, however the nomenclature used to denote parts of components will change (refer to Figure 1 below).

The new ISBT 128 Product code changes will require familiarisation by pack users. An ISBT 128 Information Pack explaining these changes and others can be requested from ISBT128enquiries@redcrossblood.org.au or visit www.transfusion.com.au for further information.

DONATION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (Label #)

Facility Identification Number 6-digit Sequential Number Check Character

A 5200 17 123456 8 5

Year Flags

IMPORTANT
The Facility Identification Number, Year, 6-Digit Sequential Number and Check Character must be recorded at all times during manual transcription.

NOTE: ISBT 128 enabled IT systems will require entry of the Check character when the 13-digit Donation Number is manually entered.

COMPONENT CODE / PRODUCT CODE

Component Splits

E 8770 V 00

Product Group Type of Donation

Split Code	Split Level
00	Not divided
A0	Split Part A
B0	Split Part B
Aa	Split Part a of Part A
Ab	Split Part b of Part A
Ba	Split Part a of Part B
Bb	Split Part b of Part B

Australian Red Cross BLOOD SERVICE

Label # **A5200 17 123456 8 5** **6200** ABO Rh

TRANSFUSION INSTRUCTIONS
1 PROPERLY IDENTIFY INTENDED RECIPIENT
2 DO NOT USE IF CONTENTS SHOW VISIBLE SIGNS OF DETERIORATION

WARNING
THIS PRODUCT MAY TRANSMIT INFECTIOUS AGENTS
SEE CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION FOR CAUTION AND INSTRUCTIONS
Donations tested and non-reactive for specific markers for HIV 1 & 2, hepatitis B&C, HTLV and syphilis
For more information telephone 1300 13 60 13

A

Rh D POSITIVE

Collection Date **24 Feb 2017**

Component Code **E8770V00** Expiry Date/Time **07 Apr 2017**

RED CELLS
In SAG-M Leucocyte Depleted
Volume: **250 ml**
Store at +2C to +6C
CMV Negative

Fya+ Fyb+

Manufacturing cost \$374.72

Label # **2123456** **620** Rh D POSITIVE

Component Code **04390** Expiry Date/Time **07 Apr 2017**

Figure 1. ISBT 128 Transition Label



Awarding the Transfusion Professionals Clinical Transfusion Practice Award an Patient Blood Management Award 2017

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	
Queensland	Susan Kay
South Australia	Barbara Parker
Tasmania	Dawn Richardson
Victoria	Chris Akers & Adrienne Wynne
Western Australia	Angie Monk
Australian Blood Service	Bev Quested
ANZSBT Council	Debbie Pinchon
BloodSafe e-learning	Trudi Verrall