

Welcome to the Winter 2017 newsletter!

What's happening around Australia and New Zealand?

Queensland:

A state-wide evaluation of the Queensland Blood Wastage Reduction Strategy has been undertaken and will inform future planning.

A study looking at the outcomes and cost benefits of long-term Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIg) therapy is being undertaken at the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast University Hospitals.

Darling Downs Hospital is undertaking a Clinical Practice Improvement Project in conjunction with the ARCBS around antenatal anaemia management. The FEISTY (Fibrinogen early in severe trauma) trial is ongoing in several health services. Two ARCBS Transfusion for Nurses workshops were held in conjunction with local HHS- Brisbane and Gold Coast. Both were well attended with excellent feedback.

South Australia:

Adelaide Iron Symposium, June 3: Data from the Obstetric Blood Management Clinical Practice Improvement project (run by the Blood Service and the Women's and Children's Health Service) will be presented.

Audits of plasma use, consent for IVIg, antenatal Iron deficiency, pneumatic tube system audits underway. Pleasingly, bedside audit results show improvements in compliance with pre-transfusion checking procedures.

Implementation of the Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin (SCIg) program commenced at the Royal Adelaide Hospital in January 2017

Use of group A (instead of AB) plasma for emergency supply in patients of unknown blood groups commenced on January 1st at Royal Adelaide Hospital - Nil issues to date. To commence at Queen Elizabeth Hospital on 15th May

Western Australia:

Various audits covering Anti-D, critical bleeding, single unit transfusion among other topics.

Joondalup Health Campus using ROTEM to guide management of critical bleeding

Electronic labelling project is ongoing.

Quality project looking at whether chronically transfused patients receive enough information. Angie Monk attended the NATA conference, 2017, where the WA PBM program was recognised as a standard of care that had been implemented across the European union.

Linda Campbell, CNC from Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital attended the British Medical Journal Conference in London with PBM Poster presentation. You can view her presentation on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YFCQTbgz88A>

Tasmania:

Tasmanian Health Service -South currently performing a comparative audit of blood product use in major Ortho and Cardiac surgery from 2010 (pre PBM) and 2016. An audit of follow up of iron studies is also being undertaken.

Transfusion Seminar open to staff across Tasmania will be held on the 15th of May at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

A care pathway for the diagnosis, assessment, and treatment of anaemia for hospitals and general practice is under development

Victoria:

The report on the snapshot audit of iatrogenic anaemia is available on the [Blood Matters](#) website. A platelet appropriateness tool is also under development.

The 2017 Blood Matters education program is well underway. Full day workshops have been delivered in Seymour and Sale, and further workshops are scheduled for Metropolitan Melbourne Hospitals. The EN workshop delivered in May received excellent feedback. A number of Transfusion Safety sessions are scheduled for Private health Services across Melbourne over the rest of 2017.

STIR continues to update their reporting forms. This reporting system plays an important role for health services to meet Standard 7 requirements by contributing transfusion incidents and risks to state and national haemovigilance data.

New South Wales

State-wide PBM Medical and Perioperative audit report completed and will be published following approval by NSW Blood and Blood Products Clinical Advisory Committee.

PBM Obstetric pilot audit report is complete and will be published following approval by NSW Blood and Blood Products Clinical Advisory Committee.

CEC Blood Watch is working with the Agency for Clinical Innovation to formalise PBM strategies into Perioperative Models of Care.

Ten Years of Haemovigilance: A Systematic Review of Patient Safety Data in New South Wales will be published following approval by NSW Blood and Blood Products Clinical Advisory Committee.

ACSQHS National Patient Blood Management Collaborative Showcase to be held in Sydney 2 June.

CEC Blood Watch and Blood Service partnering to provide rural transfusion education for nurses and medical staff in Northern NSW LHD in June. Rural transfusion education planned for Southern NSW in July and August.

Ownership of NSW Health 'Management of Blood and Blood Products' policy has been transferred from the Ministry of Health to the Clinical Excellence Commission. Review of this policy to commence in June.

The Ministry of Health continuing to work with the NBA to facilitate BloodSTAR implementation.

The Ministry of Health and CEC are working towards solutions to improve SCIg uptake.

Northern Territory

Annual transfusion practice audits in progress.

Massive transfusion audit tool under development.

Two specimen ABO/Rh verification trial to begin in Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) maternity in June 2017.

The introduction of the RDH 'Fit for Surgery' screening program has increased the number of patients being tested and treated for anaemia/iron deficiency in the period leading up to their major elective surgery.

RDH Emergency Consultant, in collaboration with Territory Pathology and Transfusion CNC, is submitting an ethics application to audit ED group and hold requests and develop a strategy to reduce unnecessary testing.

New Zealand:

The prospective audit on Massive Transfusion Protocol activations was undertaken for 1 year in the 8 largest NZ hospitals. A draft report is currently being developed.

The NZBS Learning Module (for nursing staff) is going live throughout the country currently, however implementation is dependent on the IT platforms within the DHBs.

Regular face-to-face meetings and teleconferences involving all TNs continue. Meetings are held in Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland.

NZBS are considering extending the life of thawed plasma from 24hrs to 5 days.

There will be 2 TNs attending the ANZSBT conference in Sydney & 1 TNS attending the ISBT in Copenhagen in 2017.

Australian Red Cross Blood Service:

A Blood Administration Handbook is being developed by the Blood Service to support the next edition of the ANZSBT RCNA Guidelines. It will be a successor for Flippin' blood. The Blood Service is undertaking a survey prior to the development of the next transfusion flip chart guide – and the Pack Check learning resource,. We'd like to invite you to take part in a short survey which will be invaluable in helping update these popular resources to ensure they remain relevant and useful tools. Your feedback is greatly appreciated - and you can find the survey [here](#). The survey is open until the 28th of July.

Intragam 10 has been rolled out across Australia, replacing Intragam P. It is important that any adverse reactions to the stronger preparation are reported so that they can be collated and reviewed effectively.

ISBT 128 labelling is coming. Further information can be found here. https://transfusion.com.au/BSIB_April2017_3

Additional Haemolysin testing is being implemented to support the ability to use Group A plasma in an emergency.

Education events 2017 calendar is available at <http://resources.transfusion.com.au/cdm/singleitem/collection/p16691coll1/id/876/rec/2>

Junior Medical Officer orientation package (developed in conjunction with the NBA) is being trialed in 5 hospitals. Feedback will be reviewed before the package is made more widely available.

Transfusion Update April 2017:

The Transfusion update was well attended and it was great to see so many Transfusion Professionals taking the opportunity to learn and network with colleagues!

This year the event was proudly brought to you by the Blood Service and the Biomedical Excellence for Safer Transfusion (BEST) Collaborative - and for the first time, offered both a clinical and donor stream.

With more international speakers than any other year, it was a unique opportunity to hear from a stellar range of local and international experts showcasing the latest in transfusion practice and medicine.

Feedback received so far has been overwhelmingly positive, with particular mention given to the quality of sessions and speakers.



Do you have an interesting case study?

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

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

Key events:

Iron Symposium: Saturday 20th May, Adelaide, registrations close 28 April. For enquiries, please email transfusionlearning@redcrossblood.org.au or contact Anna Supramaniam 08 8112 1334.

ISBT 27th Regional Conference: 17-21 June, Copenhagen. <http://www.isbtweb.org/copenhagen/>

HAA: 29 Oct –1 Nov, Sydney. Australia.

Please stay tuned for further information about a Transfusion Professionals work-

Your Transfusion Professional Representatives

Area	Name
ACT	Maria Burgess
New South Wales	Sally Francis, Angie Dalli
New Zealand	Liz Thrift
New Zealand Blood Service	Fiona King
Northern Territory	Julie Domanski
Queensland	Susan Kay, Fiona Clarke
South Australia	Barbara Parker
Tasmania	Dawn Richardson
Victoria	Chris Akers & Adrienne Wynne
Western Australia	Angie Monk & Sue Darby
Australian Blood Service	Bev Quested
ANZSBT Council	Debbie Pinchon