

Blood 2018:

This year at Blood we had the opportunity to have both a Transfusion Professionals free communications session and a symposium, where Transfusion Professionals could discuss a number of issues of relevance to their practice.

The speakers in the free communication sessions were excellent with some really interesting topics covered. Topics such as optimising group and screen ordering in joint replacements to reduce costs and waste, methods of identifying iron deficiency in patients to reduce the impact of treatment on patients and the impact of changing to SCIg from IVIg for patients provided food for thought.

Tania Windegger (Qld) won the TP award in clinical transfusion practice (sponsored by CSL Behring) for her presentation "Health and quality of life impacts of switching from IVIg to SCIg treatment in patients with primary immunodeficiency disease."

Kristen Brown (NSW) won the TP Award in patient blood management (sponsored by Vi-for Pharma) for her presentation "A practical and patient centred approach to the identification and management of iron deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia."

Christine Akers (Vic) won the ANZSBT award for best poster/oral presentation on haemovigilance (sponsored by NBA) for her presentation "Transfusion associated circulatory overload: promoting awareness and reporting."

It is exciting to announce that next year we will have a day for Transfusion Professionals. Planning has commenced and if you have any ideas or suggestions for the day's activities please contact your local committee member.

Double independent checking:

One topic that had been raised, and was discussed at Blood 2018, were changes to the ANZSBT blood administration guidelines, in particular the wording around 6.9.2.1 Staff

responsibility, which states:

'Two members of staff must undertake the identity check of the patient and blood product at the patient's side immediately before administration. Each of these two staff is responsible for the accuracy of the checking procedure. Although the two staff commonly do the checking together, this approach leaves room for error, including the administration of incorrect products to patients. Thus, each person must complete all the checks independently (a process referred to as 'double independent checking').'

The aim of this is to reduce the risk associated with shared checks, where each person only performs part of the check, relying on the other person to do the other part of the check. Errors, including administration of ABO incompatible transfusions have occurred when important information is missed as each person thought the other had performed that part of the checking process.

The definition in the glossary has caused concern and will be amended to reflect that this is not necessarily each person performing the checks completely on their own, but that they each must check all patient and product identification.

Research Grant

Applications for the ANZSBT Research Fund Award for 2019 are now open as per the link below to the ANZSBT website:

<https://www.anzsbt.org.au/pages/awards-grants-general-information.html#ResFund>

In 2019, the society will award a total sum of \$50,000 comprising either a single grant of \$50,000 or smaller grants totalling \$50,000. The ANZSBT Council has nominated the following research priorities for 2018:

- transfusion in rural and remote settings
- transfusion in the fetal, neonatal and paediatric settings;

- transfusion in indigenous populations or minority groups of Australia or New Zealand; or
- transfusion in the elderly.

The Society is receptive to applications from a nurse-based research project.

Please find below the link to the 2019 Flyer:

https://www.anzsbt.org.au/data/2019_RF_Flyer.pdf

and to the 2019 Application Form (below):

https://www.anzsbt.org.au/data/2019_RF_Application.pdf

Please note that an applicant does not need to be an ANZSBT member.

Applications will close on Friday 1st February 2019.

Clinical practice improvement projects

The Blood Service is offering clinicians with a keen interest in clinical transfusion practice and patient blood management to undertake a clinical practice improvement project in their health service for up to a value of \$10,000.

Clinicians must be located in **Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory, North and Far North Queensland**, and the project focus is on the 2nd edition National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Blood Management Standard (previously Standard 7).

Applications close on **Monday, 14 January 2019.**

You can contact me at

cflores@redcrossblood.org.au or (03) 9694 3512 if you would like to discuss any questions pertaining to the partnership and the application process.

A great opportunity to participate in research!

If anyone is interested in participating in a study to understand the barriers and facilitators to PBM guideline implementation from the perspective of nurses- Please contact Alana at alana.delaforce@mater.org.au

It will be a great opportunity to have your thoughts known and contribute to the betterment of our profession.

Society for the Advancement of Blood Management (SABM) by Angie Monk

I have been a member of SABM for some time and this year was fortunate to be able to attend the 2018 SABM annual meeting in Brooklyn New York. There were excellent education sessions, interactive workshops and exhibitions. I was very impressed with some of the new technology, particularly an interactive screen that accurately measured blood loss on sponges and surgical packs. It was also fantastic to meet some of the medical pioneers of blood Management.

I was particularly moved by Professor Donna Shaw's presentation – Blood on Their Hands: How Greedy Companies, Inept Bureaucracy, and Bad Science Killed Thousands of Haemophiliacs. She has co-authored a book by the same title which I have just ordered from amazon.

I was also pleased to sit their PBM exam gaining a graduate certificate in Patient Blood Management.

This was my first time to the USA; loved New York, absolutely loved the city and the people.

What's happening around Australia and New Zealand?

Queensland:

Several Qld Transfusion nurses took advantage of Blood2018 being in Qld this year, as well as taking advantage of the opportunity to get our 'vamp' on at the dinner!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Perth and the opportunity to have a Transfusion Nurses day!

We held our annual Face to Face the day afterwards, which was attended by most Transfusion Nurses and was a very informative and sharing day.

Several of our nurses have been seconded to other positions for varying periods of time, so we are a moving feast at times- luckily we have a very supportive group!

New South Wales:

Blood Watch is now at full strength with Penny O'Beid commencing with the CEC as Manager Governance Projects in the Blood Watch Lead role at the CEC.

The Blood Management Nurses across NSW came together at the CEC to learn about: utilising governance structures for strategic engagement; haemovigilance; improvement science methodology and the opportunity to network with their colleagues.

Blood Watch held transfusion seminars at two sites in Western NSW Local Health District, together with a GP Information evening session.

NSW went live with BloodSTAR on 22 October, following an intensive and extensive consultative implementation process, led by the NSW Ministry of Health, with eHealth, facilities, Blood Watch and the NBA, to ensure this was integrated with existing NSW Health systems.

ACT:**Victoria:**

O negative RBC audit report has been finalised and is awaiting approval to publish. RhD immunoglobulin use in obstetrics audit has been sent to health services, completion date 31 October.

STIR published the inaugural Bulletin, highlighting an interesting parvovirus case.

Blood Matters have updated collateral supporting the implementation of ISBT 128 labelling – available on website (posters and swing tags).

Tasmania:**South Australia:****Western Australia:**

WACHs PBM CNC has been working on a project to reduce red blood cell wastage across rural WA".

Public and private health sector to develop a process to record and review all near miss adverse events across both sectors.

A brochure was developed with extensive visuals to aid transfusion consent for patients of Indigenous background. Sue Darby and Rebecca McLean presented their work at Blood 2018 conference which was very well received.

Perth Children's Hospital now has a Patient Blood Management CNS.

Deb Pinchon -co-authored a paper with a GP on "Anaemia in Pregnancy" that has been accepted for publication in The Australian Journal of General Practice.

Northern Territory:**New Zealand:**

The proposal for the next national audit (Bedside Transfusion) is being finalised with the intent to have ethics and HTC approvals in place for the commencement of the audit in early 2019.

NZBS will be trialling a new "request for blood transfusion" form at two sites in early 2019.

Australian Red Cross Blood Service:**BloodSafe eLearning Australia:**

Neonatal and Paediatric PBM courses are now available (seven in total).

The following courses will be released soon: Viscoelastic Haemostatic Testing resource - December 2018

IDA Essentials, IDA Surgical, IDA Paediatric, IDA Chronic blood loss- March 2019

Revised Patient Blood Management – January 2019

User completion reports are now available in the new learning management system and all Report Administrators have been notified.

Key events: 2019

3rd Peri-operative Patient Blood Management Symposium, February 15-16, Brisbane.
<https://www.anzsb.org.au/events.php/24/3rd-perioperative-patient-blood-management-symposium>

Abstracts close: January 25th.

20th Annual NATA symposium, April 4-5, Berlin Germany

<https://nataonline.com/content/20th-annual-nata-symposium-berlin-april-4-5-2019>

World Blood Donor day June 14.

ISBT 29th regional congress, June 22-26, Basel, Switzerland.

Abstracts close: March 6th.

Blood 2019, November 20-23, Perth.

<http://www.blood2019.com/>

Abstracts close: June 18th.

ISBT 30th regional congress, November 16-19, Bangkok, Thailand

From all the TP representatives we wish you a merry Christmas
and a very safe and happy New Year.



Your Transfusion Professional Representatives

Area	Name
ACT	Maria Burgess
New South Wales	Penny OBeid
New Zealand	Liz Thrift
New Zealand Blood Service	Fiona King
Northern Territory	Susan Dalkie
Queensland	Susan Kay
South Australia	Barbara Parker
Tasmania	Dawn Richardson
Victoria	Chris Akers & Adrienne Wynne
Western Australia	Angie Monk
Australian Blood Service	Bev Qusted
ANZSBT Council	Debbie Pinchon
BloodSafe e-learning	Trudi Verrall