

### Contents

President's news

Save the date

ANZSBT highlights and achievements for 2018

ANZSBT Council for 2019

ANZSBT Committees

ANZSBT 2018 Awards & Grants Recipients

Blood 2018 – International Keynote Speaker Presentations Available

#### ANZSBT Standing Committee News

Transfusion Science Standing Committee  
Clinical Practice Improvement Committee  
Education Standing Committee  
Executive Committee of the ANZBT  
Research Fund  
Transfusion Professionals Network

Published literature from ANZSBT members

### PRESIDENT'S NEWS

I would like to thank all members for their participation in the Society this year, with particular thanks to the other Council members, the Standing Committee members and our dedicated and hard-working Executive Officer.

We are a small society and comprise members across a diverse range of scientific, technical and medical backgrounds from around Australia and New Zealand. We strive to provide independent expertise in transfusion medicine, and rely heavily on our members to achieve our vision. The time volunteered, the enthusiasm and passion of our members in maintaining the Society and our aims is invaluable, so thank you all for your ongoing participation in the Society.

This newsletter includes highlights and achievements of the Society in the past year.

Thank you to the Blood 2018 Local Organising Committee and specifically James Daly for coordinating the ANZSBT stream. Blood 2018 was a huge success and you will find many updates from the conference in this newsletter.

I would like to wish you and your families a **save** and happy festive season and all the best for **the** upcoming year. I look forward to working with you again in 2019.

Gemma Crighton, President

### SAVE THE DATE

#### Blood 2019

20-23 October 2019  
Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre.



#### ISBT Regional Congress

16-9 November 2021  
ANZSBT to host in Australia



### MORE NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### ANZSBT highlights and achievements for 2018

The 3rd edition of the [Guidelines for the Administration of Blood Products](#), developed in collaboration with the Royal College of Nursing, Australia was published in January 2018.

[Considerations for pre-transfusion immunohaematology testing in patients receiving the anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody daratumumab for the treatment of multiple myeloma](#), developed in collaboration with the Myeloma Scientific Advisory Group to Myeloma Australia (MSAG) was published in the Internal Medicine Journal in February 2018. To complement this, a [pre-transfusion immunohaematology testing algorithm](#) for patients receiving anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody therapy was produced.

The [Consensus statement on the use and allocation of Kell negative red cells](#), developed in collaboration with Blood Service was published in July 2018.

A collaborative response to the editors of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology regarding an Invited Editorial discussing the assessment of iron deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia in pregnancy was submitted and published in the December 2018 issue.

ANZSBT was successful in applying for and presenting a series of three web-based seminars as part of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) Specialty Society Webinar Pilot 2018. The first of these is now available on our website: [Dr Alison Street: Haemovigilance and Adverse effects of transfusion](#).

#### ANZSBT RACP Webinar by Dr Alison Street



Topics

Date	Presenter	Presentation name
13 Aug 2018	Dr Alison Street	Haemovigilance and Adverse effects of transfusion
25 Sept 2018	Dr Zoe McQuibben	Blood product modifications – who needs what?
7 Nov 2018	Dr James Daly	Evolve – the ANZSBT's top 5 recommendations

ANZSBT was successful in securing the non-European regional congress of the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) in 2021 to be held from November 16th -19th. ISBT was last in Australia in 1986, when Sydney hosted the 19th International Congress. We are still awaiting being able to formally announce the location for the meeting.

#### ANZSBT Council for 2019

Current members of the ANZSBT Council are:

Gemma Crighton (President, VIC),  
Simon Benson (Vice-President, NSW),  
Jo Cameron (Hon. Secretary, ACT, ),  
Debbie Pinchon (Hon. Treasurer, WA),  
Elizabeth Thrift (Councillor, NZ),  
Greg Irwin (Councillor, NSW).

I would like to specifically say thank you on behalf of the Society to James Daly who is stepping down from Council this year. James has been on Council for six years, with two as President and last year as Immediate Past President.

Anne Wiseman is the Executive Officer of ANZSBT and can be contacted via [anzsbt@anzsbt.org.au](mailto:anzsbt@anzsbt.org.au)

#### ANZSBT Committees

The members of the three Standing Committees – Clinical Practice Improvement Committee (CPIC), Education Standing Committee (ESC) and Transfusion Science Committee (TSSC); the Research Committee and Transfusion Professionals Network all work admirably to further the aims of the Society in their respective areas of interest.

Information regarding membership and terms of reference of the [Standing Committees](#), [Research Committee](#) and [Transfusion Professionals Network](#) can be found on the website by clicking the links.

### ANZSBT 2018 AWARDS AND GRANTS RECIPIENTS

ANZSBT Awards and Grant recipients for 2018 were announced at Blood 2018. The successful recipients are outlined below and on the [2018 Awards and Grants](#) webpage.

#### Ruth Sanger Award – Associate Prof. David Roxby

The Ruth Sanger Award is the premier award of the ANZSBT and is given in recognition of a significant contribution to the field of transfusion medicine.



The 2018 Ruth Sanger oration was delivered by Dr David Roxby, Head of Unit, SA Pathology Transfusion Medicine.

David has been very active as a teacher, supervisor and examiner in science, medicine, nursing and midwifery. He has been extensively involved with ANZSBT over many years serving as a Council member and Honorary Treasurer for 11 years, as well as chairing the Scientific Sub-committee, now the Transfusion Science Standing Committee. David also assisted with organisation of the ANZSBT Annual Scientific Meeting.

#### Peter Schiff Award – Dr Chris Hogan (sponsored by CSL Behring)

The aim of the Peter Schiff Award is to recognise and foster significant contributions to transfusion medicine.



The 2018 recipient is Dr Chris Hogan, Medical Specialty Coordinator in the Clinical School of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences of the University of Melbourne in recognition of his extensive contribution to haematology and transfusion education.

#### ANZSBT Research Fund

Dr Wayne Dyer - ARCBS, Alexandria, NSW:

*Alternatives to red cell transfusion to treat anaemia*

Dr Allison Mo - Monash University, Melbourne, VIC:

*A feasibility randomised controlled pilot trial of weekly-interval red cell transfusion schedule in myelodysplastic syndromes: REDDSW2 pilot study.*

Dr Edward Chew - The Royal Melbourne Hospital Parkville, VIC:

*Has availability of red cell concentrates on Air Ambulance Victoria improved patient outcomes?*

#### Presidential Award

Dr Candice Thomson - Flinders Medical Centre, Bedford Park, SA:

*Extending the Post-Thaw Viability of Cryoprecipitate.*

#### Poster Prize

Dr Nicholas Bingham - Alfred Health/Peninsula Health, VIC:

*Infusions of Intragam 10<sup>®</sup> increase serum free light chain measurement in plasma cell myeloma patients with secondary hypogammaglobulinaemia.*

#### Transfusion Professional Award in Patient Blood Management (sponsored by Vifor Pharma)

Ms Kristen Brown - Murrumbidgee Local Health District, Wagga, NSW:

*A practical and patient centred approach to the identification and management of iron deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia.*

#### Transfusion Professionals Award in Clinical Transfusion Practice (sponsored by CSL Behring)

Ms Tanja Windegger - University of the Sunshine Coast, QLD:

*Health and quality of life impacts of switching from IVIG to SCIG treatment in patients with primary immunodeficiency disease.*

### Award on Haemovigilance (sponsored by the NBA)

Ms Christine Akers - Alfred Hospital, Prahran, VIC:  
*Transfusion associated circulatory overload: promoting awareness and reporting.*

### Young Investigator Award for Best Abstract (sponsored by the NBA)

Ms Alexis Perros - Australian Red Cross Blood Service, Kelvin Grove, QLD

### ANZSBT Travel Grants to the Annual Scientific Meeting

Ms Agnes Yuen - Monash Health, Clayton, VIC  
Ms Emily Cappy - PathWest Fiona Stanley Hospital, WA  
Ms Kristen Brown - Murrumbidgee Local Health District, Wagga, NSW

### CSL Behring Overseas Travel Grant

Alison Badger - New Zealand Blood Service, Auckland NZ  
Neil Waters - Transfusion Research Unit, Monash University, VIC

### South East Asia/Pacific Islands Travel Award (co-sponsored by the International Society of Blood Transfusion)

Halimatun Othman - Malaysia  
Monalisa Tuaifaiva - Samoa  
Miranda Huanimaha - Solomon Islands



South East Asia/Pacific Islands Travel Award recipients



### BLOOD 2018 – INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE

Blood 2018 included an impressive line-up of international and local speakers, discussing a diverse range of scientific and clinical topics. The international speakers are listed below and members are able to access video recordings of their keynote presentations listed below via [ANZSBT Blood 2018 Video Portal](#).

Thierry Peyrard, Director, National Immunohematology Reference Laboratory, National Institute of Blood Transfusion, Paris, France.

*Genomics and red cell genotyping in transfusion medicine*

*Pretransfusion tests in chronically transfused patients*

Brian Custer, Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine, University of California, USA.

*Recipient Epidemiology and Evaluation Study (REDS-III)*  
*Pathogen reduction technologies*

Masja de Haas, Laboratory Director, Department of Immunohematology Diagnostic Services, Sanquin Blood Supply, The Netherlands.

*Investigation and management of FNAIT*  
*Pretransfusion testing in autoimmune haemolytic anaemia*

Harvey Klein, Chief, Department of Transfusion Medicine, NIH Clinical Center, USA.

US Haemovigilance in the Information Era  
*Blood Transfusion: precision vs Imprecision Medicine*  
*Red cell storage – of dogs and men*

Lise Estcourt, Consultant Haematologist for NHS Blood and Transplant, and Senior Clinical Lecturer in Transfusion Medicine, Oxford, UK.

*National comparative audit of Blood Transfusion*  
*Appropriate platelet transfusions*

### ANZSBT STANDING COMMITTEE NEWS

#### Transfusion Science Standing Committee news

Current members of the Transfusion Science Standing Committee (TSSC) are available on our [website](#).

Key activities of the TSSC for 2018:

- Position paper and quick reference flow chart for [Considerations for pretransfusion immunohaematology testing in patients receiving the anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody daratumumab for the treatment of multiple myeloma](#).
- Face to face meeting to discuss the feedback received post the release of the 2016 [Guidelines for Transfusion and Immunohaematology Laboratory Practice](#); revise the [Guidelines For Laboratory Assessment Of Fetomaternal Haemorrhage](#); and the [Extended Life Plasma](#) Guideline.
- Subsequent review of the [Guidelines for Transfusion and Immunohaematology Laboratory Practice](#) with addition of tabulation of changes for easy reference.
- Plan to next review the Guidelines for Laboratory Assessment of Fetomaternal Haemorrhage.

Nicole Zacher, Chair, Transfusion Science Standing Committee

#### Clinical Practice Improvement Committee news

Current members of the Clinical Practice Improvement Committee (CPIC) are available on our [website](#).

Key activities of CPIC for 2018:

- Review and response to feedback on the 2018 [Guidelines for the Administration of Blood Products](#), particularly the topic of independent bedside checks - using the newsletter to convey key messages; and engagement with BloodSafe eLearning Australia.
- Series of minor edits and suggestions on the Guidelines to be considered in the near future and

the Guidelines updated for clarification, but substantial changes are not anticipated.

- Contribution to refining the ANZSBT Evolve Criteria (a project largely undertaken by James Daly with Sandy Minck) and the ANZSBT response to NBA consultation on the PBM review research plan (a project led by Anastazia Keegan, Amanda Thomson and Richard Seigne).
- Consideration of how to promote best practices in Transfusion science and medicine. Plans to develop a platform whereby quality improvement activities and tools can be shared - not depend on whether the project was successful or not, but that there is data on the development and assessment of the tool so that members can evaluate whether they should follow a similar path. The Committee will start to develop governance processes and we hope to have this progress in 2019.

Philip Crispin, Chair, Clinical Practice Improvement Committee

#### Education Standing Committee news

Current members of the Education Standing Committee are available on our [website](#).

Key activities of ESC for 2018:

- ANZSBT Website – ongoing updates and assistance with migration to new host and design refresh.
- ANZSBT Social Media strategy – ANZSBT Twitter account [@ANZSBT](#), established in August 2017 has grown to 252 followers.



- International keynote speakers for Blood 2018 provided key messages and publication links from their talks that were Tweeted to the wider transfusion community.



- ANZSBT Newsletter
  - The inaugural ANZSBT newsletter launched in May, with ongoing quarterly schedule.
- BLOOD 2018
  - Input into activities to maximise the value of Blood2018 to ANZSBT members.
- EVOLVE
  - Assisted James Daly and CPIC to update the evidence and finalise the submission requirements for the ANZSBT Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) Evolve list.

Sandy Minck, Chair, Education Standing Committee

### Transfusion Professionals Network news

Nurse practitioners prescribing blood –remains topical amongst transfusion nurses around the country. It was agreed at the October TPN Annual General Meeting that a working party be formed to develop a proposal for Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (APHRA) regarding nurses prescribing blood in Australia. This will be progressed in 2019.

Blood 2018 - the Transfusion Practitioner Network sessions included the:

- TPN concurrent session - abstracts were exceptional and the presentations well attended.
- Open forum - positively received by members and everyone felt they had the opportunity to discuss issues of concern. Topics included the definition of double independent checking which resulted in the ANZSBT Clinical Practice Improvement Committee agreeing to review the glossary in the guidelines.

ANZTPN newsletter - will continue to be distributed as it covers detailed activities being carried out across the networks and serves a specific purpose for the TPN group.

Transfusion Professionals Network – want to know more? Select this [link](#).

Angie Monk, Chair, Transfusion Professionals Network

### Executive Committee of the ANZBT Research Fund news

Current members of the Research Committee are available on our [website](#).

The purpose of the ANZSBT research fund is to contribute to the advancement of research in transfusion medicine and science in Australasia and to promote and develop research in related medical knowledge and science.

ANZSBT Council has nominated the following research priorities for 2019:

- transfusion in rural and remote settings;
- transfusion in fetal, neonatal & paediatric settings;
- transfusion in indigenous populations or minority groups of Australia or New Zealand; or
- transfusion in the elderly.

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 Research Committee will evaluate the merits of the proposed research project, to ensure that it is relevant, of a suitable standard and has potential value to Australia and New Zealand.

Four key criteria on which the assessment will be based are:

- Significance of the project and value of the potential outcomes
- Quality of the research plan
- Feasibility of the project including timeframe
- Track record of the applicant(s)

Information on eligibility, criteria, conditions of the grant and applications are available on our website: <https://anzsbt.org.au/pages/awards-grants-general-information.html#ResFund>

**Applications close Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.**

John Carter, Chair, Executive Committee of the ANZBT Research Fund

### Published literature from our members (August – December 2018)

Bielby, L. , Peterson, D. and Spigiel, T. (2018), [Transfusion education for nurses and transfusion practitioners in Australia](#). VOXS, 13: 259-267.  
doi:10.1111/voxs.12409

Bielby, L. , Haberfield, A. , Kelsey, G. and Kay, S. (2018), [The role of the transfusion practitioner in the multidisciplinary team](#). VOXS, 13: 338-346.  
doi:10.1111/voxs.12408

Bielby, L. and Moss, R. L. (2018), [Patient blood management and the importance of the Transfusion Practitioner role to embed this into practice](#).  
Transfusion Med, 28: 98-106.  
doi:10.1111/tme.12526

Akers, C. , Savoia, H. , Kane, S. , Crispin, P. , Keegan, A. , Wood, E. , Glazebrook, B. , Bielby, L. and Davis, A. K. (2018), [Misinterpretation of blood group and antibody screen leading to serious errors in RhD immunoglobulin administration: A report on first two years of data from Serious Transfusion Incident Reporting program](#). Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol. .  
doi:10.1111/ajo.12889

Apologies to any member whose publication we may have missed.

Feel free to email us your articles at [anzsbt@gmail.com](mailto:anzsbt@gmail.com) for inclusion on our website and/or in our next newsletter.