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2010 BSMS Regional Meetings

Following the success of the BSMS regional meetings in 2008 the BSMS Steering Group have agreed to revisit this format in 2010. A number of regional meetings will be held in England and Wales, some of which will be held in blood service venues which will allow us to keep the costs to participants low. We hope this will encourage more hospitals to attend.

The focus of the meeting will be around blood component sharing, transfer between hospitals and return to blood services. This is a hot topic and an important aspect of successful blood component inventory management. A series of short talks from hospital staff are also planned and will focus on electronic ordering, tracking in the hospital setting and the electronic despatch note. These subjects may be varied at each meeting. If you have some ideas for the short talk section or have a topic that you would like to present please contact the BSMS office.

The dates and venues for the regional meetings are included in the table below. A provisional programme will be posted on the website in the next few weeks, please check the website for up to date information - www.bloodstocks.co.uk

Date	Venue
12 April 2010	Bexley Wing, St James University Hospital, Leeds, LS9 7TF
06 May 2010	NHSBT Manchester Centre
07 May 2010	NHSBT Birmingham New Street
12 May 2010	Welsh Blood Service, Talbot Green, Poyntclun, CF72 9WB
18 May 2010	Romsey Golf Club, Southampton, SO16 0XW
26 May 2010	Methodist International Centre, Euston St, London, NW1 2EZ

Data Transparency Update

The BSMS collated the first de anonymised hospital data report for hospitals served by NHSBT in early September 2009. The report was distributed to Transfusion Laboratory Managers, Transfusion Practitioners and Chairs of the Regional Transfusion Committees (RTCs). The aim of the report was to facilitate open discussion at RTCs with the aim of promoting "best practice" in stock management. These reports will be produced and circulated on a quarterly basis, the next report is due in early December 2009 and will report on data from July to September 2009. The BSMS have been asked to supply similar reports to both the Better Blood Transfusion Team in Wales and the Regional Transfusion Committee in Northern Ireland. We hope to take these developments forward in 2010.

Thank you to all the participants who have called the BSMS office to comment on and discuss the report. There has been a lot of interest in improving stock management following the issue of this first report.

The BSMS in conjunction with its Operations Group are exploring ways in which national data transparency might be taken forward during 2010. There needs to be a software development to VANESA (data management system) to allow both phase 2, national transparency, and phase 3, provision of comparative data.

We will keep you updated on progress with data transparency via newswire and the website.

Hospital Case Study

Participants are always interested in case studies around inventory management. If you have a case study that highlights an aspect of inventory practice please let us know and we will publish your article in future editions of Newswire.

Sheffield Children's Hospital Foundation Trust

Jackie Bowyer, Medical Laboratory Assistant writes.....

Sheffield Children's Hospital is an acute hospital providing surgery, medicine, emergency, ITU, Haematology/Oncology with bone marrow transplantation services and holds a relatively large stock of O Negative red cells in order to meet its obligations to a paediatric and neonatal population. As such, a disproportionate amount of O Negative red cells can accumulate and therefore merits extra effort in order to avoid inappropriate use. Sheffield Children's Hospital Foundation Trust (SCH) has a local agreement with Royal Hallamshire Hospital (Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust) to transfer red cells close to expiry. Neonatal splits are not included in this agreement.

Since joining the BSMS staffing levels have prevented the regular transfer of red cells resulting in O Negative red cells being transfused to non O Negative patients to avoid time expiry. With national initiatives to avoid wastage and ensure appropriate use of O Negative red cells we have recently relaunched the practice of transferring red cells approximately three times per week with the aid of Medical Laboratory Assistants (MLAs).

As the nominated MLA who submits our daily data to BSMS I worked with our Chief BMS to put into operation a procedure to make better use of the transfer facility with the aim of transferring close to expiry O negative red cells to allow an improved chance of transfusion to O Negative patients.

After approximately 4 months the fate of some of the transferred stock was audited to see if the red cells were transfused and whether they were transfused to an O Negative patient.

Findings:-

- 21 units of O Negative red cells were transferred to the Royal Hallamshire Hospital in the period 20th July 2009 to 11th September 2009.
- All 21 units were transfused within 2 days of being transferred.
- 19 of the 21 units were transfused to O Negative patients.
- The remaining 2 units were transfused to an O Positive patient who received 36 units of red cells in one event.

Conclusion and learning points: -

- Having a transfer agreement with a local hospital can lead to a reduction in both wastage and inappropriate use.
- Regular audit and feedback between hospitals participating in the arrangement is essential to monitor and resolve any issues.
- The sharing/transfer of blood between neighbouring hospitals is not new however it does require commitment from staff to ensure all aspects of quality are maintained.
- The use of MLA staff in this capacity is a good example of their value.
- Red cells of any ABO group with 3 days to expiry are now transferred.



Season's Greetings
from all of us at the
Blood Stocks
Management Scheme