

BLOOD STOCKS MANAGEMENT SCHEME

NEWS SHEET No.2

September 2001

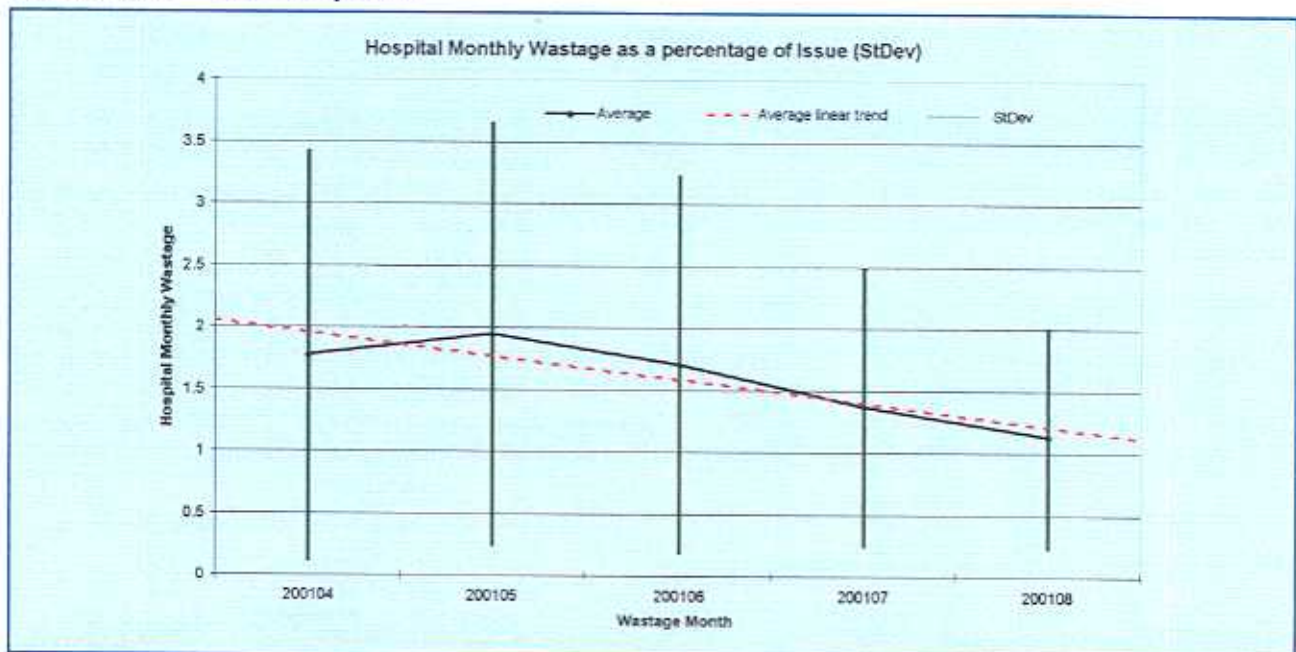
In this issue -

- ◆ key facts – small reduction in wastage
 - ◆ software changes
 - ◆ ad hoc exercises
 - ◆ introduction to the Blood Stocks Management Team
 - ◆ help available!

Key Facts

- ◆ The first news sheet prompted four hospitals to register.
- ◆ There has been a small decline in hospital wastage for groups A, B and O over the first four months of the Scheme from 2.06 in April to 1.67 in July 2001. The wastage reduction has been both in time expired and out of temperature control outside the laboratory.

Wastage – All hospitals



Software changes

The first major software revision was released on 28th August. It includes the facility to download the user hospital's raw data into a spread sheet package so that participants can view their data and generate their own graphs. There will be another software revision early in 2002. If there is anything you would like to see changed or improved please contact Rob on 020 8258 2763 or email rob.hick@nbs.nhs.uk.

Ad Hoc Exercises

64% of participants have indicated they would like to take part in the ad hoc exercises. The exercises will consist of three questionnaires and three data gathering exercises. The three questionnaires will cover blood stock ordering practice, laboratory staffing and skill mix and information on surgical blood ordering schedules. The three data gathering exercises will collect information on allocated stock, (on line or by paper), an assessment of the age of blood at the time of transfusion and the length of time a unit is in the hospital transfusion laboratory before transfusion or out-dating. The last two exercises will be carried out by paper or by completion of a spread sheet that we can email to you. It may not be too late to be included, so if you did not reply to the invitation and would like to participate please contact the BSMS office.

The Blood Stocks Management Scheme Team

The BSMS team is now almost complete with the appointment of the Data Analyst and data administrator. The BSMS office is located at the NBS Centre, Colindale.



Rob Hick joined the team as the data analyst at the beginning of July. Rob graduated in Geography, is an IT wizard, and started in the NBS as database administrator on the ISBT 128 project. Rob's first major task for the BSMS is analysis of the data from April to September. Rob is an occasional DJ, he also declares an interest in gourmet cooking and eating out!



Lorraine Foley joined the team in August as the Administrator. Lorraine has just graduated in Social policy from Brighton. She will be carrying out general administrative duties including data input and database administration. Lorraine is a film buff and has an active sports life!

Lorraine and Rob will be visiting hospital laboratories so that they can understand what happens in the hospital area of the blood supply chain. Lorraine will also spend some time familiarising herself with NBS processing, testing and issue at Colindale.

Website

Now that the BSMS team is complete work will start on the development of the website. New software has been purchased and further training will take place in September. If there are items related to blood stock management you would like to see on the website please contact Rob.

USA introduces "Sentinel System"

The USA have announced that they are to introduce a new "real time" monitoring network to measure the blood supply in key local areas, regions and nationwide. The system will collect data from selected hospitals and will measure demand. A press release from the US Department of Health and Human Services states "our nations blood supply network needs good, current information if it is to operate with maximum effectiveness."

Help available from the BSMS office

Now that Lorraine has started work we are able to offer help with inputting data. If internet participants find themselves in the situation where they are short of staff or there is a major problem with internet access, the BSMS office can input your data. Just fax through the sheet(s) to the office on 020 8258 2969