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## ACTIVITY MONITORING

Complete data sets from each participant ensure the integrity of the data held by the BSMS and also that any analysis that we carry out is an accurate reflection of the data related to the blood supply chain.

The BSMS team monitor activity every two months and hospitals that have missed any data entry will receive an email which gives information on missing data entries. The email reads:

*The BSMS regularly monitors your data entry activity. For each month your activity will be classified as either:*

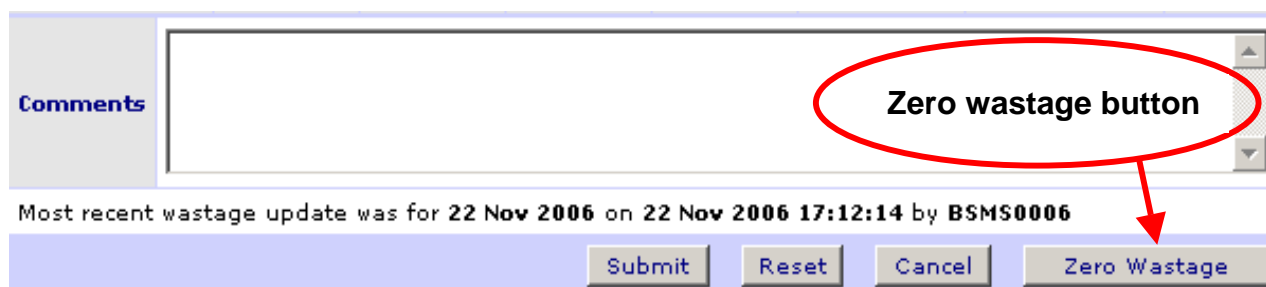
- **Complete** - all data entered for whole month
- **Partial** - partial data entered for month
- **Missing** - no data entered for month

*You are receiving this email because some of your data (as at 10-Nov-2006), has been classified as partial or missing. The following table summarises your activity for each dataset:*

Hospital:	Aug 2006	Sep 2006
RBC Stock	complete	partial
RBC Wastage	complete	complete
RBC Transfused	missing	missing
PLT Wastage	complete	complete

One of the main reasons for hospitals failing activity monitoring is because wastage is not recorded. Recording has been made easier with the introduction of the **zero wastage button** or by using the **monthly preference**.

## ZERO WASTAGE BUTTON



Comments

Zero wastage button

Most recent wastage update was for 22 Nov 2006 on 22 Nov 2006 17:12:14 by BSMS0006

Submit Reset Cancel Zero Wastage

Some hospitals have zero red cell and platelet wastage. **Zero wastage does need to be recorded for both** to improve the accuracy of the data. The zero wastage button was introduced to give quick access for zero wastage returns.

## MONTHLY WASTAGE PREFERENCE

If you have minimal wastage it may be easier for you to record wastage monthly rather than daily. The monthly preference will restrict data entry to the last day of each month.

If you would prefer to enter your wastage monthly rather than daily please contact the BSMS office who will change the configuration of your red cell and platelet wastage data entry pages.

## ***VANESA 4 VIPs***

On 26<sup>th</sup> September the BSMS ran its first **VANESA 4 VIPs** training course for 16 delegates at the NBS Birmingham New Street meeting rooms. The course was introduced because it was felt that blood transfusion laboratory managers wished to know more about how they could get the most from the BSMS data and how they could use the data to help with inventory management problems.

**VANESA 4 VIPs** is a one day course and includes a morning session on the BSMS website, data entry and data extraction. In the afternoon session three case studies; wastage, O Neg issues and ideal ISI are used to help delegates to find the best way of using their data to address issues associated with inventory management practice e.g. wastage levels, use of O Neg, appropriate red cell inventory levels.

A free sandwich lunch is provided as is a BSMS file for all of your BSMS information.



A second V 4 VIPs took place on December 7<sup>th</sup>. A further course is planned for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007 in Birmingham. An application form is available on the BSMS website. Book quickly as this course is proving very popular.

## ***VANESA 4 DUMMIES***

V4D courses continue to be popular and book out very quickly. This course is aimed at those who enter the BSMS data. It is interactive and the delegates leave the course better informed about the Scheme, its purpose, how to enter the data and the gains that can be made from participating.

Two new dates have been booked; 18th January 2007 in Manchester and 22nd February in Birmingham. Application forms are available on the BSMS website.

## ***BSMS OPEN MEETING 2007***

The **2007** Open meeting will take place on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May** at the Paragon Hotel, Birmingham.

The programme will follow the successful format of previous years with the opportunity for interaction with other delegates in the simultaneous workshops as well as a plenary session with a speaker from the supermarket sector talking about logistics and distribution and the usual open forum.

The programme will be built around effective management of the hospital blood and blood component inventory, recognising that the NBS has recently announced a new strategy for the next 10 years. However the content will be equally applicable to hospitals supplied by the other UK blood services.

### **The programme will include:**

- BSMS Data review and effective use of the data
- Operations, logistics and distribution in the supermarket sector
- 3 simultaneous interactive workshops which will run twice during the day;
  - *best practice for red cell inventory management*
  - *best practice for special product inventory management*
  - *best practice for platelet inventory management*
- Open Forum

**Further information and an application form will be distributed early in the New Year.**

# BSMS ONLINE HELP

VANESA  
Home Page

- Screen Shot
- Hints & Tips
- FAQ
- 4 Dummies
- Help Centre

The screenshot shows the BSMS online help interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home Edit View Admin Help' and a welcome message. Below this is a toolbar with various icons. The main content area is divided into sections: 'Activity Log', 'Messages', and 'NBS Stock Figures'. Red arrows (A-H) point to specific help features: A points to the 'Help' menu, B to the 'Assign' button, C to the 'Hospital' dropdown, D to the 'Centre' dropdown, E to the 'Activity Log' section, F to the 'Messages' section, G to the 'NBS Stock Figures' table, and H to the 'Platelets' chart. A legend at the bottom left states: 'Click on a red arrow to view explanation'.



The online 'help' button gives you access to a help facility for the page that is being used. Clicking on the appropriate red arrow gives you access to information about the area of the page associated with the arrow.

Further aspects of online help are being developed e.g. the hints and tips and FAQ.

The Help Centre gives access to the help facility by each of the VANESA pages.

## BSMS PURPOSE AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The BSMS has been operational for five years, has grown geographically and extended its portfolio of data to include both red cells and platelets. The growth and development of the Scheme led the steering group to review its' purpose and its management structure at its meeting in June. Changes to both were agreed at the August meeting.

### The purpose of the Scheme:

- To lead best practice in blood inventory management
- To provide advice and recommendations to hospitals and blood services
- To act as a data repository
- To ensure participation
- To collect and provide information to and from the blood services
- To benchmark UK blood service and hospital performance
- To continue current activities e.g. inventory practice surveys, VANESA courses, IT developments.

These changes mean that the Scheme will begin to develop guidelines and recommendations on blood inventory management practice and become more pro-active with their involvement with hospitals and blood services.

### The management structure:

- The UK Forum; responsible for the effectiveness of the Scheme and its funding
- The National Blood Service (NBS) Senior Management Team (SMT); responsible for the management of the Scheme to the NHSBT Board which reports to the Department of Health
- A steering group; to provide the strategic direction for the Scheme, monitor the performance of the Scheme and be accountable to the NBS SMT on behalf of the UK Forum
- An operations group; to advise the Steering group on issues relating to the performance and direction of the processes by which the Scheme operates, including IT issues.
- The Head of Hospital Liaison and Scheme manager responsible for ensuring the Scheme operates effectively, in line with budgetary constraints and follows the strategic direction of the Scheme as agreed with the Steering group and account for BSMS activities to an appropriate member of the NBS SMT.

The new management structure will mean that there will be changes to the steering group and the recruitment of new members.

## BSMS STEERING GROUP

The BSMS has recently recruited four new members to the steering group. Susan Buchanan, Blood Express manager from the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service, Peter Baker Blood Transfusion laboratory manager from Royal Liverpool Hospital, Rachel Moss, transfusion practitioner, St Mary's hospital and Teresa Allen, Head of Hospital Liaison.

## The BSMS Team

Rob Hick has been appointed senior data analyst. This appointment recognises Rob's skills in statistics, operational research and data analysis and the increasing workload with the growth of the BSMS to include the whole of the UK. The BSMS also leads the NBS demand planning group and Rob has been involved in researching tools and models to more accurately predict red cell and blood component demand. In addition to Rob's appointment the UK forum also agreed to fund an additional data analyst.



For future reference Judith will continue her role in heading up the BSMS and the team, dealing with all the strategic elements including marketing and promoting of the Scheme, liaising with the blood services and problem solving. Rob heads up the data analysis and all queries regarding IT. Clive will handle all hospital requests e.g. forgotten passwords, enquiries re. individual hospital data and queries related to the BSMS six monthly reports. Clive also leads on VANESA 4 DUMMIES and VANESA 4 VIP's. Gayan will initially be familiarising himself with the BSMS systems and then work solely on data analysis.

Gayan Perera (pictured above) joined us as the third data analyst in October. His appointment will enable us to carry out more analysis and research related to blood supply management. Gayan writes:

*I spent my younger days in Sri Lanka and came to the UK in 1997 to study for a BSc in Physiology at Kings College London. In 2003, I studied for my Masters degree in Public Health at Homerton College, Cambridge. I was particularly interested in descriptive Epidemiology of Communicable diseases in the developing world and International health Economics. I have also worked in Sri Lanka, at the Central Epidemiology Unit on Dengue Infection surveillance, which was the basis for my Masters degree thesis. In the beginning of 2006, I joined South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust (NHS) as an Information analyst and enjoyed Practice based commissioning analytical work.*

*I am a keen cricketer and represent the Staff and graduate cricket Team at Kings College London. I also enjoy Sri Lankan food and eating a lovely hot curry in a Sri Lankan restaurant in London.*

## BSMS and KSF



**Have you ever considered the association between the BSMS and KSF?**

### **Core dimension IK2, Information Collection and Analysis**

This dimension is closely associated with all the work carried out in providing the data to the BSMS and using the charts and data to analyse performance, to report the data to others and for service improvement and quality.

### **Core Dimension 4 Service Quality and Improvement**

The collection and interpretation of information is a key part of improving the quality of services. The BSMS data can help in informing you of your inventory management practice including identifying wastage and the reasons for wastage. Any actions you take to try to improve performance can be used as evidence for meeting this dimension.

### **Core Dimension 5, Quality**

This relates to maintaining a high quality of your own work. The BSMS data can be used by you to benchmark your practice and thereby assess the quality of your inventory management performance.

So, active participation in the BSMS is a simple way of helping blood transfusion staff to achieve some of the core dimensions of KSF.



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