



BSMS Strategy Survey 2011 - - Summary Report- -

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1. Background

The Blood Stocks Management Scheme (BSMS) was established in April 2001 with the aim of increasing understanding of the blood supply chain from blood service to hospital. Blood Services and hospitals from the UK and the Republic of Ireland participate in the BSMS providing a knowledge bank of information related to blood supply management.

A strategy survey was carried out in 2011 with the objectives of assessing:

- If participation in the BSMS continues to provide benefits in terms of the management of blood stocks.
- What services should be provided by the BSMS in the future that would be of benefit to hospitals and Blood Services.

The outcomes from this survey will be used to inform the future strategy of the BSMS.

2. Summary of key findings

- Overall the benefits to hospitals in terms of stock management resulting from participation in the BSMS are:
 - Monitoring and reviewing stock holding and wastage of red cells
 - Monitoring and reviewing wastage of platelets
 - Benchmarking of performance against other BSMS participants
 - Optimising blood service and hospital stock
 - Suggesting good practice in stock management

In order to obtain the benefits from participation in the BSMS it is essential that hospitals input and review the data on a regular basis.

- The reports provided by the BSMS are used in different ways in hospitals. The individual hospital hard copy quarterly reports and the Regional Transfusion Committee (RTC) quarterly reports appear to be included in reports to the Hospital Transfusion Committee (HTC), whereas the VANESA on line graphs and charts are being used in reviewing practice.
- The BSMS data management system, VANESA, is used by hospitals to input stock and wastage data and to produce on line graphs and charts. 63% of respondents were able to extract data from VANESA. Those hospitals not extracting data from VANESA received the data from an alternative source.
- Over the years the BSMS has accumulated much data on blood service and hospital stock management which has been published in peer reviewed journals. The majority of hospitals indicated that the articles provided evidence that can be used to produce guidelines and recommendations about stock management as well as being interesting and informative.
- Budget, staffing and time constraints are the main reasons for hospital staff not attending the educational meetings and VANESA training days organised by the BSMS. The majority of those who attended the VANESA training days found them very useful.

The BSMS are currently reviewing the way VANESA training is delivered to participants. Once the output is available it will be shared with participants.

- Hospitals would like to see the BSMS provide the following services in the future (rated as important with scores of 4 and 5 by participants):
 - Development of a system to automatically capture stock holding and wastage data from hospital computer systems and insert into VANESA (no manual input of data) (80%)
 - Delivery of VANESA training by e-learning (73%)
 - Development of a data management system to enable the automatic capture of clinical blood usage by clinical speciality (71%)
 - Development of VANESA to capture wastage data by clinical speciality (66%)
 - Increasing transparency of blood service and hospital data to increase knowledge and improve stock management processes across the supply chain (61%)
 - Development of email for circulation of red cell issue levels for use in blood shortages (60%)
 - Inclusion of frozen components in stock holding and wastage data from hospitals (58%)
 - Development of web based reporting systems for BSMS reports (hard copy and email) (57%)

3. Survey Response

The 2011 strategy survey was sent to 323 hospitals in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Hospitals could respond individually or on behalf of a trust. Completion of the survey was requested from the Hospital Transfusion Team.

201 hospitals returned the survey, a rate of over 62% for the five blood services, and representing the views of 243 hospitals (Table 1). Thank you to those participants who took the time to complete the survey.

Blood Service	Number of hospitals/Trusts that responded	Number of hospitals served by blood service	Response rate
NHSBT	166	253	66%
NIBTS	5	10	50%
WBS	9	16	56%
SNBTS	5	5	100%
IBTS	16	39	41%
Total	201	323	62%

Table 1 - Survey response rate by blood service

4. Section A - Benefits

Hospitals were asked about the benefits in terms of stock management practice resulting from participation in the BSMS during 2011. Topics included reviewing red cell stock holding and wastage levels as well as platelet wastage levels. Hospitals were also asked about their use of tools and media provided by the BSMS.

Red Cell Stock Holding

1. Have you reviewed your stock holding levels of red cells during 2010/11?

Response	Response rate
Yes, we review our red cell stock holding levels regularly and adjust appropriately	85.1%
No	14.4%
Don't Know	0.5%

2. If you reviewed your stock holding levels please tell us if you used BSMS data?

- Of the 85% of hospitals that answered 'yes' to Q1, 65% of these hospitals used BSMS data.
- 33.7% answered 'no' to using BSMS data. The majority of these hospitals were either small users of red cells or generated the data locally.

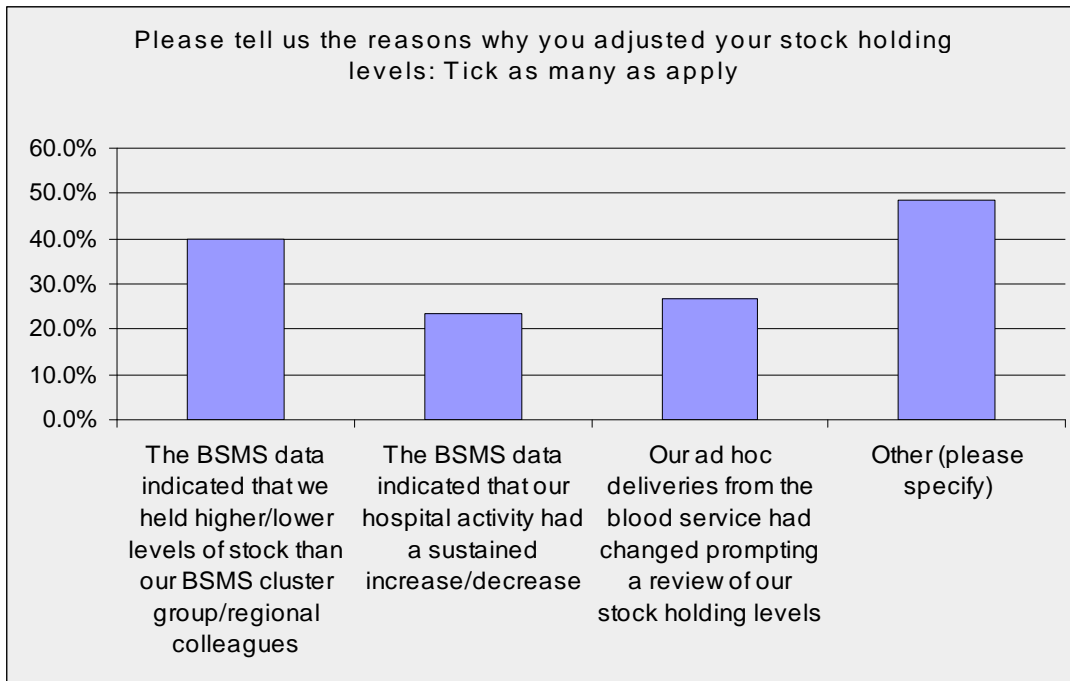
Response	Response rate
Yes	65.1%
No	33.7%
Don't Know	1.2%

3. Did you adjust your stock holding levels after review?

- Those hospitals answering 'yes' to Q2, were asked if they adjusted their stock holding levels.

Response	Response rate
Yes, we adjusted our stock holding levels	54.0%
No stock holding adjustment was necessary	46.0%
Don't Know	0%

- Those hospitals answering 'yes' to Q3, were asked as to the reasons why stock holding levels were reviewed.



- Other reasons for the adjusting stock holding levels included high time expiry wastage levels.

Red Cell Wastage

4. Have you reviewed your wastage levels of red cells during 2010/11?

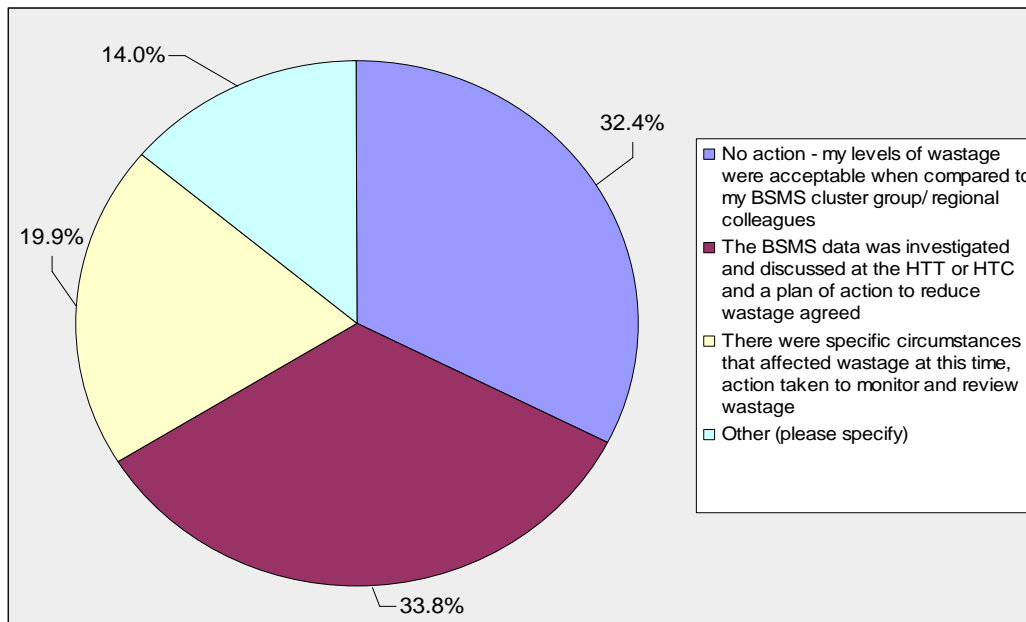
Response	Response rate
Yes	96.5%
No	3.0%
Don't Know	0.5%

5. If you reviewed your wastage levels of red cells please tell us if you used BSMS data?

- Of the 96.5% of hospitals that answered 'yes' to Q4, 70% of these hospitals used BSMS data.
- 29.4% answered 'no' to using BSMS data. The majority of these hospitals were either small users of red cells or generated the data locally.

Response	Response rate
Yes	70.1%
No	29.4%
Don't Know	0.5%

6. If you reviewed red cell wastage data provided by BSMS what actions did you take as a result?



Platelet Wastage

7. Have you reviewed your wastage levels of platelets during 2010/11?

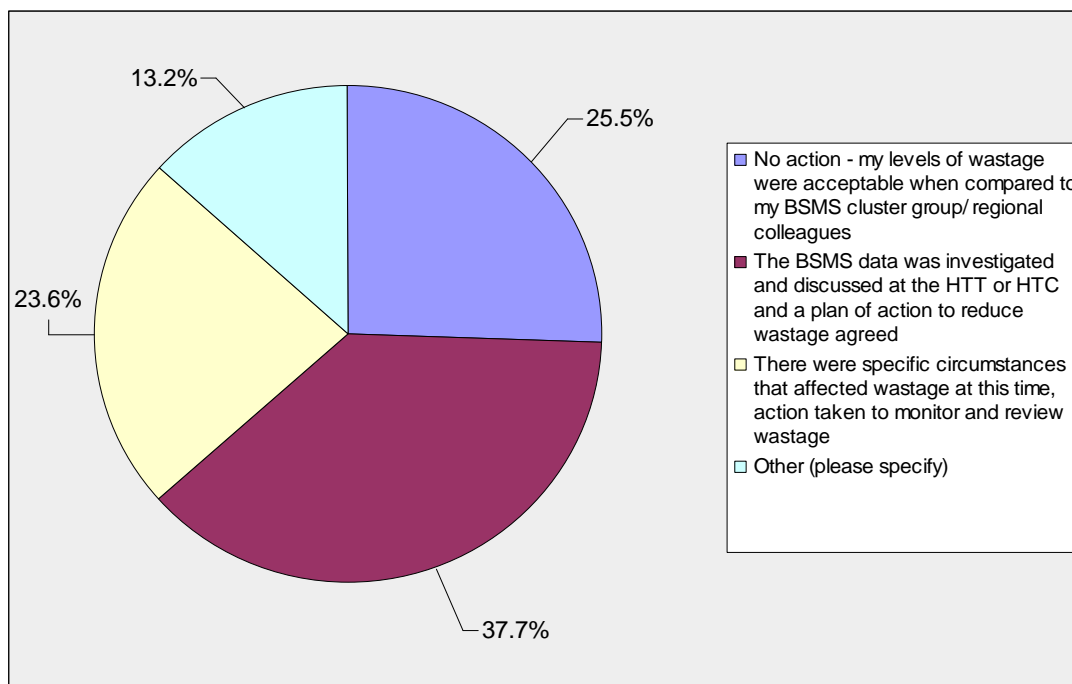
Response	Response rate
Yes	79.6%
No	19.9%
Don't Know	0.5%

8. If you reviewed your wastage levels of platelets please tell us if you used BSMS data?

- Of the 79.6% of hospitals that answered 'yes' to Q7, 66.3% of these hospitals used BSMS data.
- 32.5% answered 'no' to using BSMS data. The majority of these hospitals used locally generated information to review their platelet wastage levels.

Response	Response rate
Yes	66.3%
No	32.4%
Don't Know	1.3%

9. If you reviewed platelet wastage data provided by BSMS what actions did you take as a result?



Use of BSMS data/information

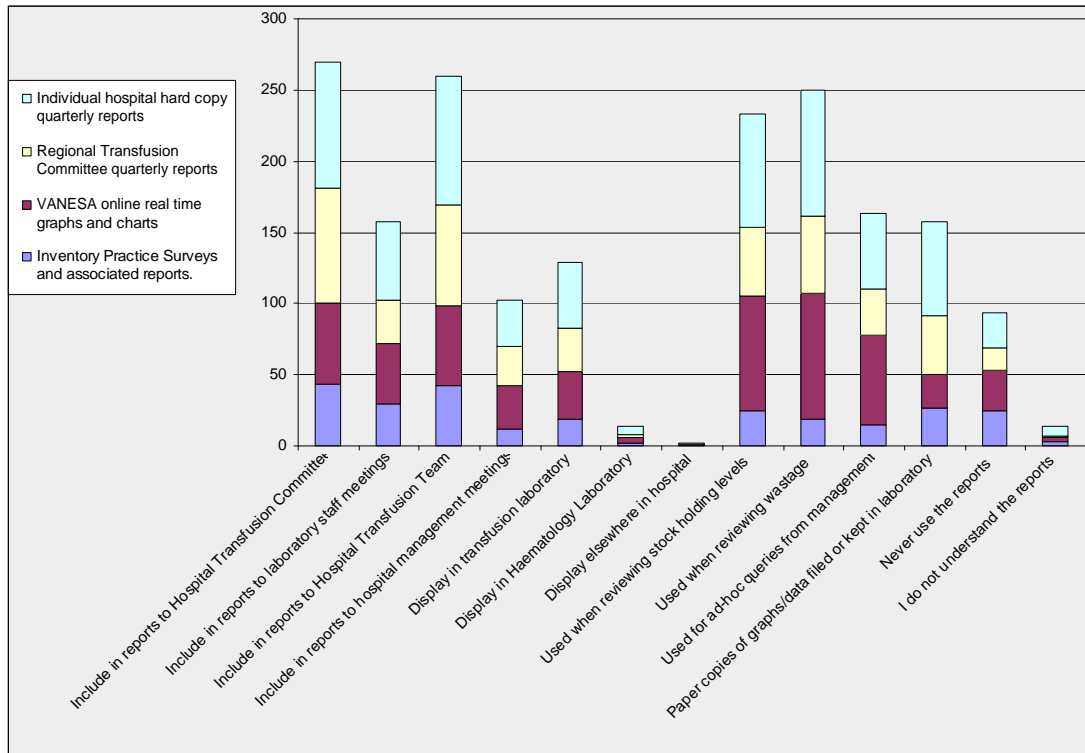
10. How do hospitals make use of the data/information provided in the BSMS reports?

The BSMS provides a number of reports for hospitals

- Individual hospital hard copy quarterly reports
- Regional Transfusion Committee quarterly reports
- VANESA online real time graphs and charts
- Inventory Practice Surveys and associated reports

Hospitals were asked how they made use of the reports. This question was not compulsory but 99% of the surveyed hospitals responded. Respondents could tick as many uses as applied to them.

- The individual hospital hard copy quarterly reports and the RTC quarterly reports appear to be included in reports to the HTC, whereas the VANESA on line graphs and charts are being used in reviewing practice.



Extracting data from VANESA

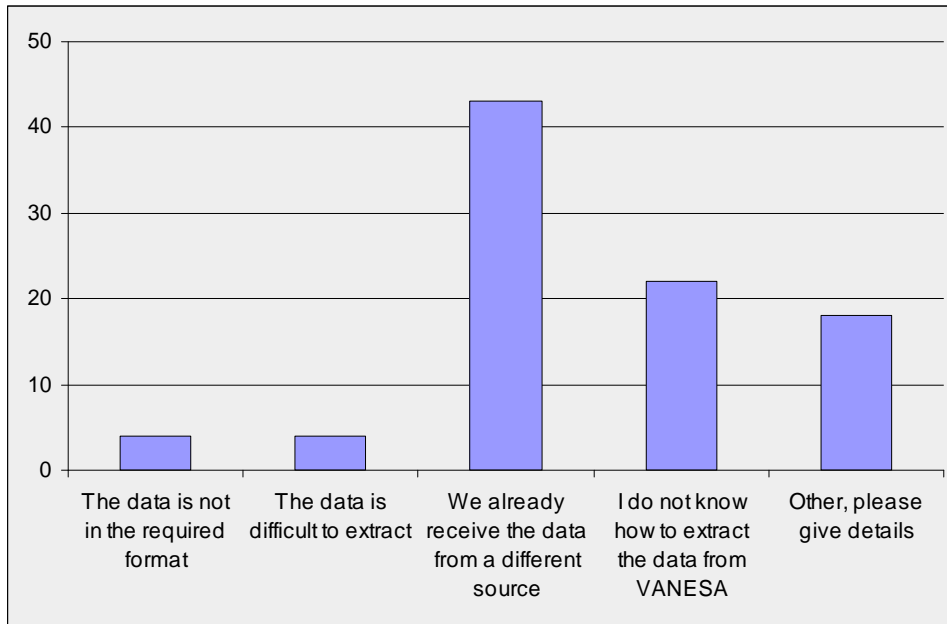
Key to the BSMS is the web based data management system, VANESA. Hospitals were asked if they extracted data from VANESA and if they didn't why?

11. Do you extract data from the data management system, VANESA?

Response	Response rate
Yes	63.2%
No	35.8%
Don't Know	1.0%

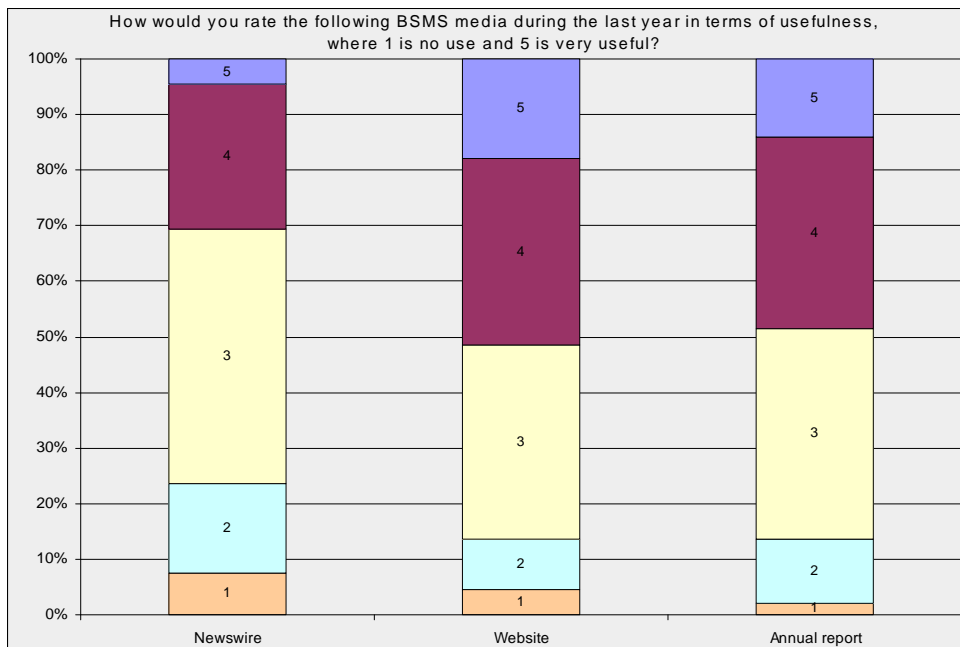
Those participants who never use any of the data extracted from the data management system were asked why not?

- Time and staffing constraints were identified as 'other' reasons for never having extracted the data from VANESA.



12. How would you rate the following BSMS media during the last year in terms of usefulness where 1 is no use and 5 is very useful.

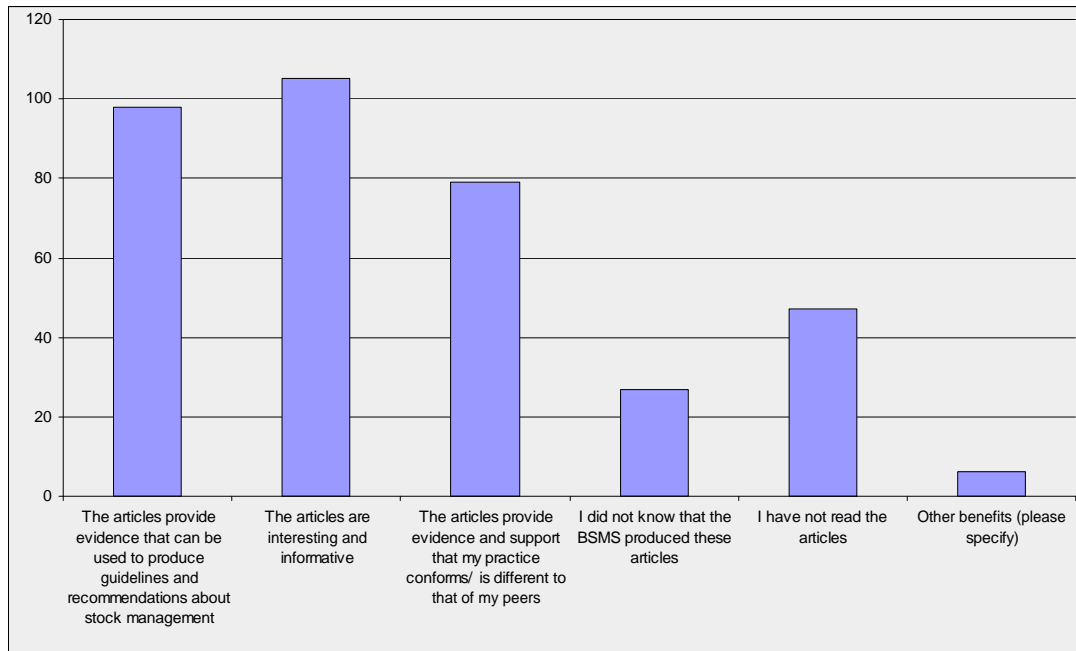
The BSMS provide a quarterly newsletter 'Newswire', an annual report and post information to a website www.bloodstocks.co.uk



13. Are the BSMS journal publications providing benefits to hospitals?

The BSMS has access to data regarding blood service and hospital stock management and has over the years published peer reviewed journal articles on stock management practice.

Respondents were asked about the benefits of these publications. Hospitals were asked to tick as many answers as applied.



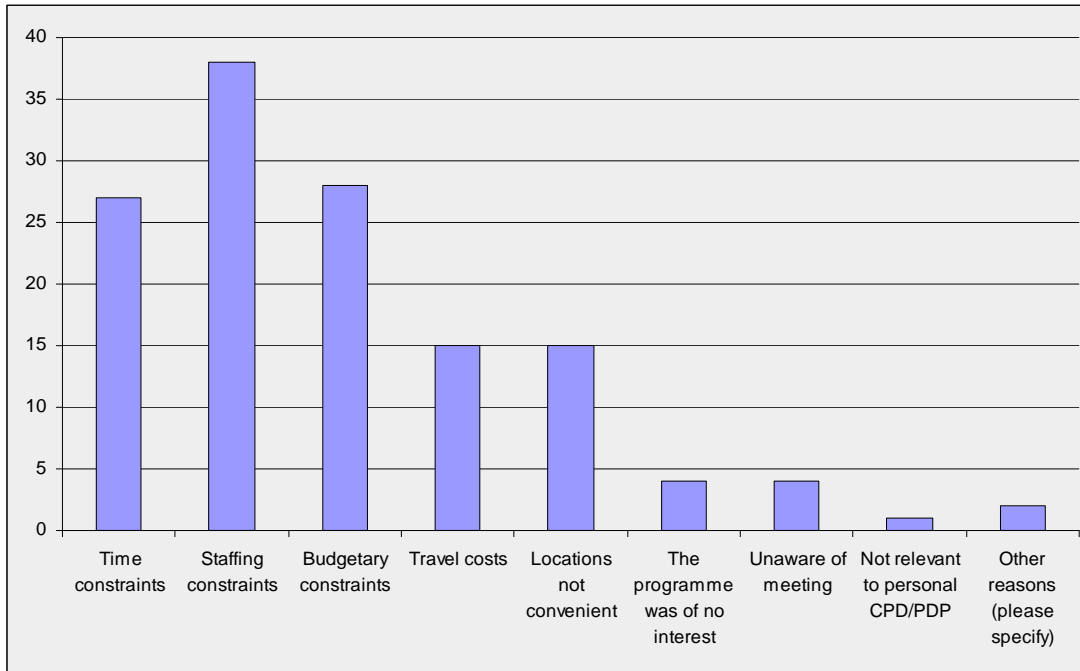
BSMS provision of training and education in stock management

The BSMS provides educational meetings either in the form of an annual open meeting or several regional meetings.

14. Has anyone from your department attended an educational meeting?

Response	Response rate
Yes	70.6%
No	25.4%
Don't know	4.0%

- There were 51 (25.4%) respondents saying that no one from their department had attended an educational meeting.
- Reasons for non attendance were constraints on staffing, budget and time.

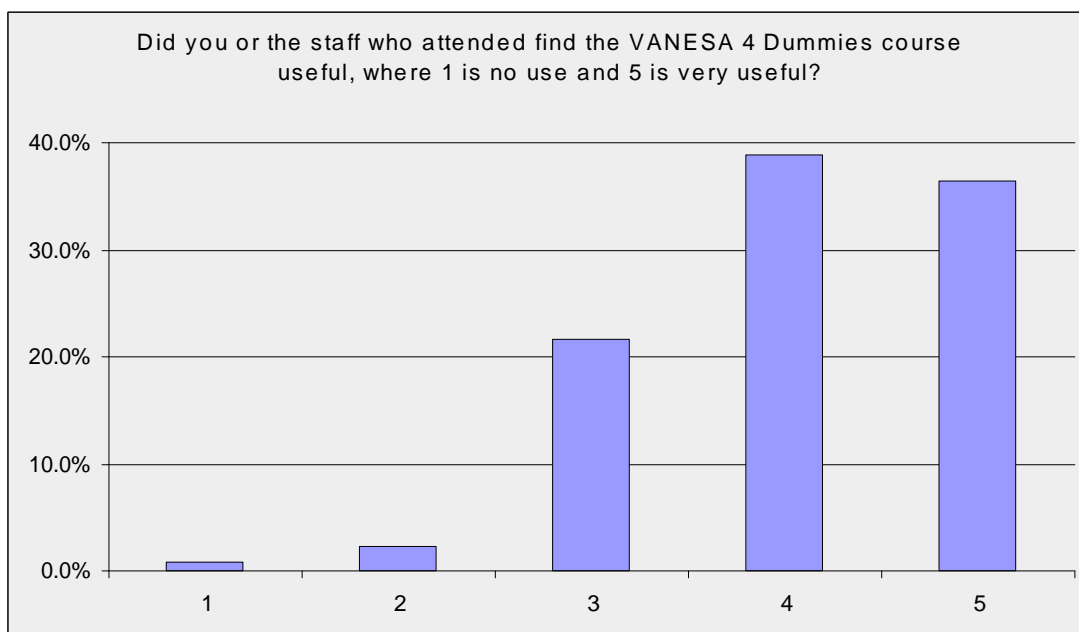


15. Have any staff from your hospital attended a VANESA 4 Dummies (Introduction to VANESA) course?

The BSMS provide training in the data management system, VANESA.

Response	Response rate
Yes	64.2%
No	30.3%
Don't Know	5.5%

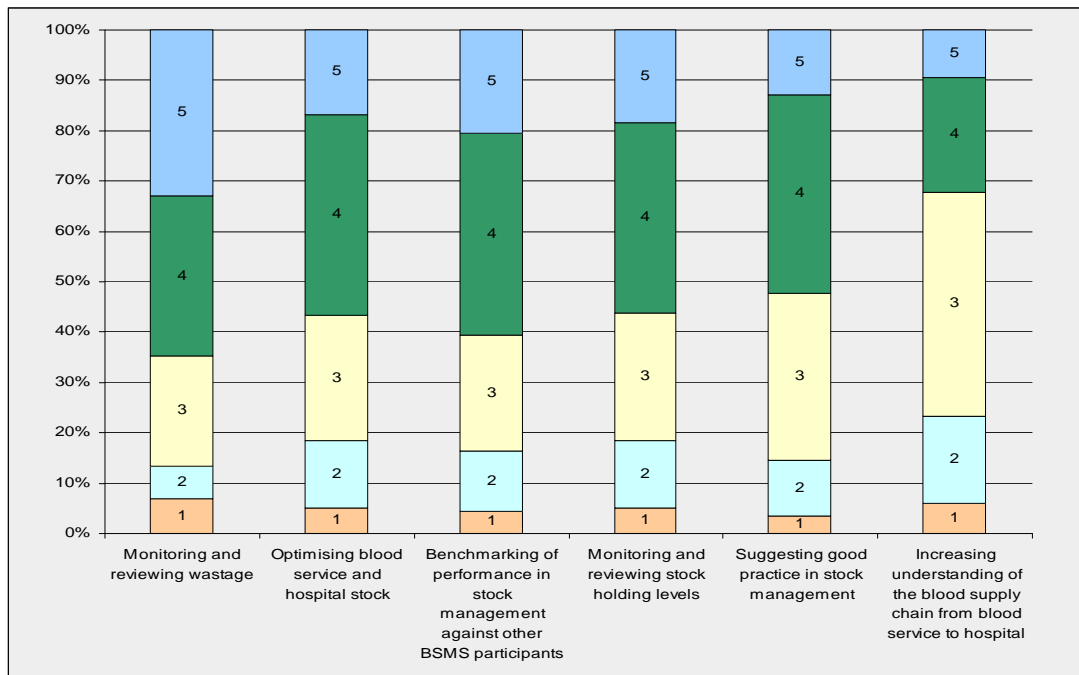
Of the staff that have attended a course, we asked how useful they found it.



- Of the staff that hasn't attended a course, we asked for reasons why not. The most popular responses were "Time or staffing constraints".

16. Overall please rate the stock management tools provided by the BSMS in terms of benefit to hospital and blood service stock management, where 1 is no benefit and 5 is very important benefits.

Stock management tools are defined as VANESA, BSMS reports, communication, training, media, educational meetings, published journal articles.



Overall the benefits to hospitals in terms of stock management resulting from participation in the BSMS are:

- Monitoring and reviewing stock holding and wastage of red cells
- Monitoring and reviewing wastage of platelets
- Benchmarking of performance against other BSMS participants
- Optimising blood service and hospital stock
- Suggesting good practice in stock management

In order to obtain the benefits from participation in the BSMS it is essential that hospitals input and review the data on a regular basis.

5. Section B – Future Developments

Hospitals were asked what services should be provided by the BSMS in the future that would be of benefit to hospitals and blood services. Participants were asked to rate suggestions on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not important and 5 is very important. Topics were divided into three categories collection of data, reports, and training.

The services rated as important (scores of 4 and 5) to participants are :-

- Development of a system to automatically capture stock holding and wastage data from hospital computer systems and insert into VANESA (no manual input of data) (80%)
- Delivery of VANESA training by e-learning (73%)
- Development of a data management system to enable the automatic capture of clinical blood usage by clinical speciality (71%)
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The BSMS data management system, VANESA, will be upgraded to v4 during 2012. The developments in version 4 will include enabling electronic capture of stock holding and wastage data from hospitals, inclusion of frozen component stock holding and wastage data, and development of a location for the deposit of electronic BSMS reports.

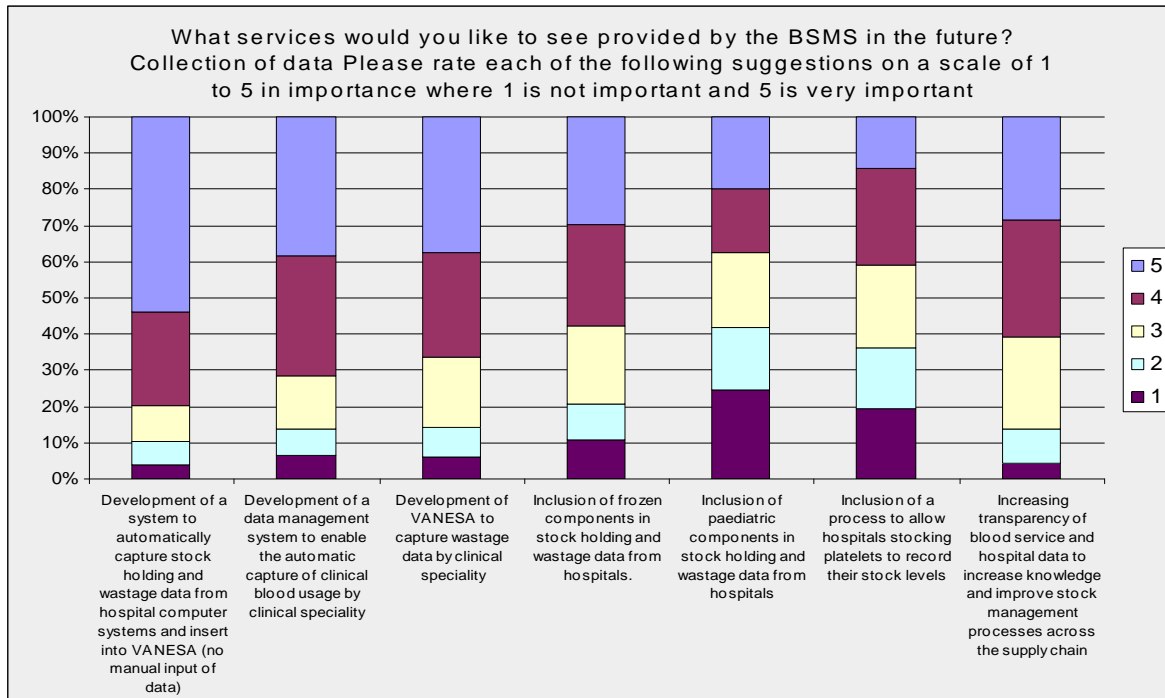
The email circulation of red cell issue levels for use in blood shortages has been piloted in a few hospitals and is planned to go live during February 2012. More details will be available shortly.

A trial of AIM II, developed by America's Blood Centres, is taking place with 4 NHSBT served hospitals. AIM II enables extraction of clinical information related to blood usage from hospital databases.

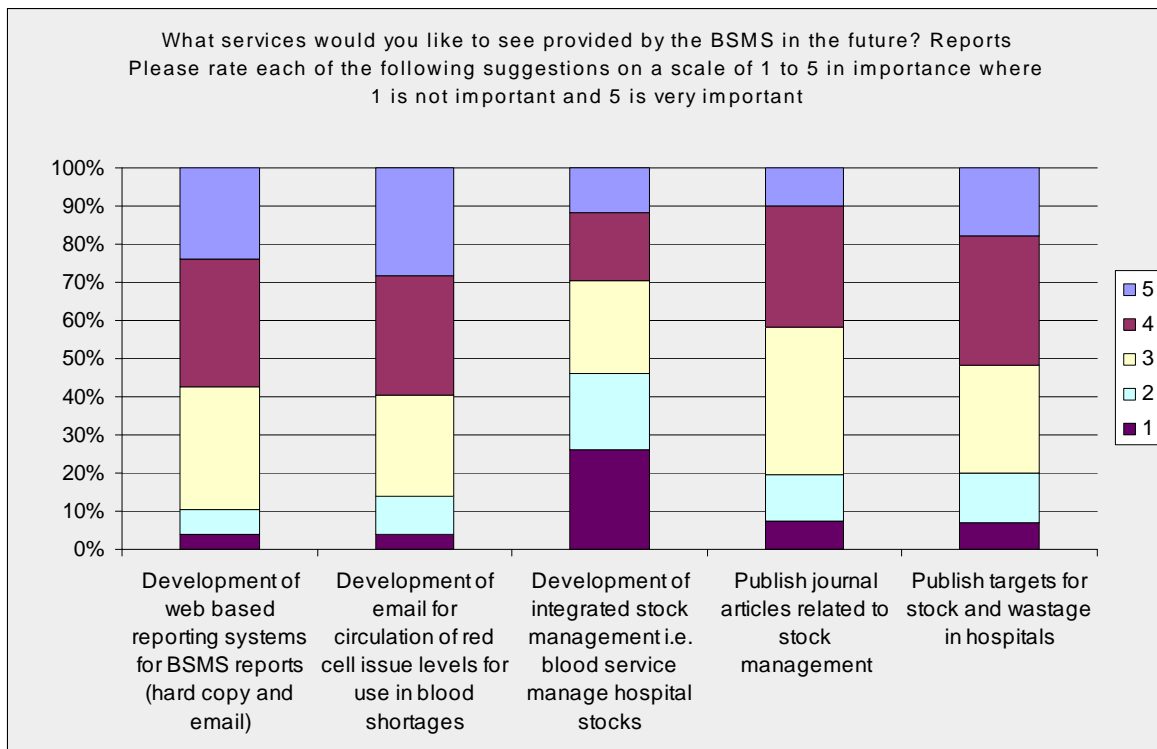
The BSMS is currently reviewing the way it delivers VANESA training and will publish a training plan in the near future.

Capture of wastage data by clinical specialty will be discussed by the BSMS Steering Group at the next meeting in March 2012.

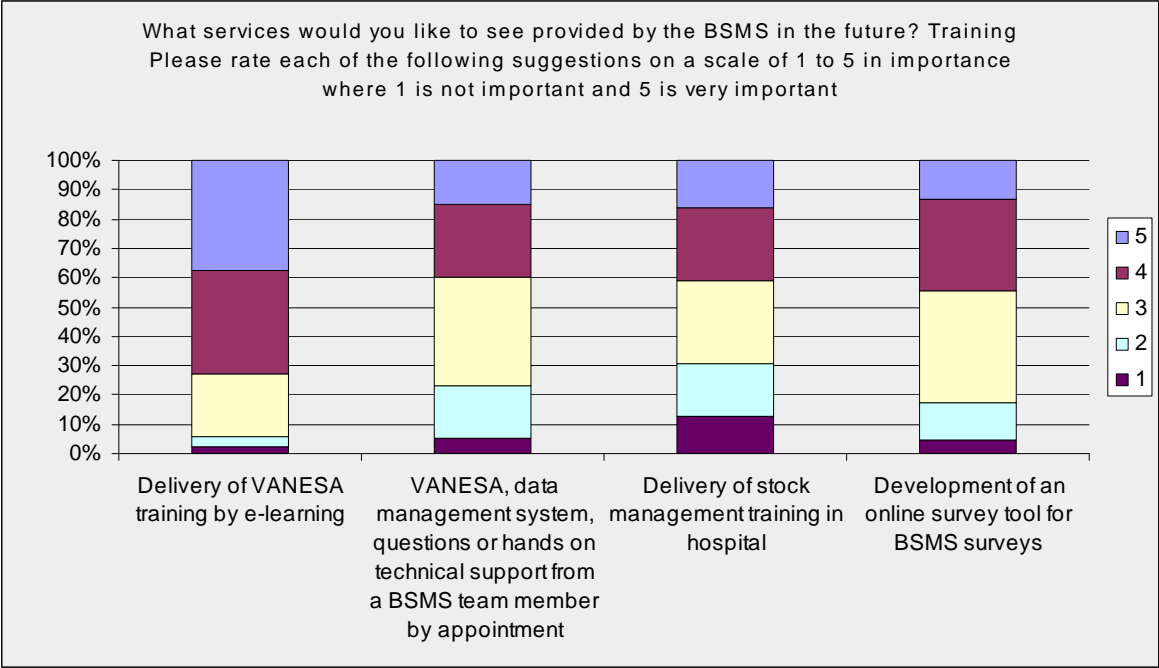
Collection of data



Reports



Training



Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes	Name	Changes Marked