

SERIOUS HAZARDS OF TRANSFUSION
NATIONAL STEERING GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2PM 28TH JUNE 1999
AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
2 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, LONDON SW1Y 5AF

	ACTION
Present: Dr. H. Cohen, (Chair) representing BSH Mrs. H. Jones, (Minutes) Acting Assistant National Co-ordinator Dr. E. Love, National Co-ordinator Dr. L. Williamson, Chair of Standing Working Group Professor J. Lumley, representing Royal College of Surgeons Dr. J. Barbara, representing BBTS Dr. A. J. Mortimer, representing Royal College of Anaesthetists Professor J. Lilleyman, representing Royal College of Pathologists Mrs. S. Scott, representing Royal College of Nursing Miss C. Atterbury, representing Royal College of Nursing Dr. C. Taylor, representing Royal College of Physicians Mr. D. Economides, representing Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	
Apologies for Absence Mr. J. Revill (Secretary) representing IBMS Mr. I. Cumming, representing the Institute of Health Service Managers Dr. B. Gibson, representing College of Paediatrics and Child Health	
Welcome to new members Miss C. Atterbury, representing Royal College of Nursing Mrs. H. Jones, Acting Assistant National Co-ordinator (for those who were not at the last meeting)	
99.7 Membership update:	
i Steering Group:	
i.i There has been no response to date from the Institute of Health Service Managers although a reply is expected soon. The NHS Confederation wishes Mr. I. Cumming to represent them in addition to representing the IHSM.	
i.ii Dr. J. Bennett has resigned and the Faculty of Public Health Medicine has been unable to identify a suitable substitute. Enquiries need to be made locally	ALL
i.iii We now have 2 representatives from the RCN. It has been suggested that the group ought to have a representative from the Royal College of Midwives but no candidate has been suggested by them. It was agreed that Susan Scott would approach the RCN to ask them to nominate a midwife.	SS
i.iv BSH have requested a second representative and, in particular, would like a DGH haematologist. Dr. Paul Kelsey, chair of the BCSH Task Force has been approached and would be willing to undertake this role. It was queried whether this is necessary since the group already has two Task Force members. It was agreed, however, that Dr. Kelsey's membership would be valuable. To be contacted.	HC
ii Standing Working Group	
ii.i There are two new members of this group. Dr David Gozzard and Miss C. Atterbury	

99.8 Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 18.01.99 were accepted as a true record. No comments were received on the Standing Working Group minutes of 28.04.99 and 27.05.99

99.9 Review of Revised Terms of Reference

It was suggested that information regarding fractionated plasma products might be shared with the MCA. This seems unlikely at the moment, but Dr. Williamson will try to take this further. It was pointed out that there was a slight discrepancy in the wording referring to autologous donation and this is to be amended. With reference to solvent/detergent treated fresh frozen plasma fields specifically designed to accommodate this product are to be added to the database.

LW

HJ

99.10 Council of Europe draft recommendations

Comments back to the Council of Europe are invited. Chapter 30, "Haemovigilance" is based on the French model. Dr. Williamson suggested several alterations to the proposed text so that the document is relevant to the different ways in which haemovigilance is run in various countries. SHOT reports for the two years to date together with revised terms of reference are to be sent with the response. To be discussed with Angela Robinson

LW

99.11 Review of launch 1999

The 1999 launch was felt to have been highly successful. Although there was no attendance by members of the press, there was a large amount of media interest which included radio and TV interviews. There was a tendency by the media to label SHOT as a "Pressure Group" or "Watchdog". It was agreed to try to promote the use of "Professional Watchdog" and to strongly discourage the use of "Pressure Group"

99.12 Feedback from report**i Irradiation of blood components for lymphoma**

Risks are expected to be reduced once leucodepletion is fully introduced. Dr. Williamson and Dr. Cohen are linking in with the BCSH who plan to address this issue in a new guideline on lymphoma

LW / HC

ii Bacteriological investigation

Guidelines have been produced for bacteriological investigation of adverse transfusion reactions but these have not been universally accepted. Work is ongoing and the problems will, hopefully, be resolved in time for the next report.

iii Donor arm cleansing protocols

These protocols are not yet completed. The studies are complete and the statistics done. The report is currently being finalised and is almost ready.

iv Reports to blood bank MLSOs

It has been agreed that a free copy of the report should be sent to each Chief MLSO. The BSH contribution will be used to fund this.

v National Blood Safety Committee

There was broad agreement on the need to push further for this, in line with the 2 SHOT reports. There was a discussion on how best to take this forward. Professor Lumley suggested that the first approach should be discussion with relevant parties. Standing Working Group members are to address this.

SWG

99.13

Launch 2000**i Timetable**

The proposed timetable will be accepted with the addition of entries for the report summary. Timetable to be amended accordingly and re-issued

HJ

ii Scientific meeting / symposium at launch

A draft programme was discussed but it was felt that a broader based programme would achieve more. . Suggestions for content included litigation and risk assessment. . Various suggestions were made concerning guest list and content. Guests might include Chief Executives, representatives from the Royal Colleges, medical litigation experts There are 100 places available but we may have to invite many more than this and operate a selection process if the meeting becomes oversubscribed. Revised programme and guest list to be devised by SWG.

SWG

iii Media Support

The need for media training was discussed. Although it was felt to have been very useful in the two previous years there was some doubt expressed about its current value given that those who attended the courses have since had considerable experience. Peter Gibson has been approached to enquire whether he would be willing to act as media consultant in a freelance capacity. Peter Gibson is not clear whether this would be feasible as he is returning to full time study. He has asked that a proposal be drafted of our requirements. He has also suggested that he may be able to arrange media training at less cost than last year. Hilary Jones to draft a proposal.

HJ

iv Printer

It has been decided that SHOT should seek the services of a printer who is local to the Manchester office. This followed several problems encountered last year which related directly to the distance between the printer and the office and which involved considerable costs in employing couriers. Hilary Jones and Dr. Love have made some progress on this but have not yet finalised it.

HJ / EML

99.14

Nil to Report Card

A smaller Nil-to-Report card will be issued this year and included on it will be the opportunity for hospitals to participate in a "receipt" scheme as proof of participation in SHOT. The receipt system will be completely anonymous and a covering letter will be drafted by Dr. Cohen to explain the system. Hilary Jones to place orders for the cards and will send them out to hospitals mid September.

HC / HJ

99.15

Financial Report and future funding**i Update**

There is currently a £7,000 deficit which has occurred because the NBS has allocated £7,000 short from the Trust Fund. Dr. Love has written to Angela Robinson about this but has not yet received a reply.

Note added after meeting: Angela Robinson (AR) had written to the other UK BTS Medical Directors requesting increased contributions from them for this financial year. It was thought the replies had been positive. AR will copy correspondence to EL who will then chase up the outstanding amount.

EL

ii BSH funding

The BSH have generously offered grants for the current year and next year of £5,000 each. They would like to know what the money is to be used for and an invoice is to be raised for the full amount. This year's grant is to be used to fund a re-print of 5,000 copies of the report for distribution to Chief MLSOs

ACTION

iii BBTS funding

Dr. Williamson has written to Professor Cash in an attempt to secure funding for the next two years. Professor Cash has responded that consideration will be given to this request at the next Council meeting.

Note added after meeting: The BBTS has pledged £5000 for this year and next. EL to arrange for an invoice to be raised.

EL

99.16

IT

i Questionnaire / Database update

Amendments are underway by the IT department and the vast bulk of these are now complete. The new database for IBT is installed and is ready for data entry.

HJ

ii IT support

A response has been produced by NBS in reply to our request for more formalised IT support. The proposals outlined were seen to be helpful and should ensure more timely IT support in future.

Dr. Love is to draft a service level agreement for discussion with Barry Savery and IT staff

EML / HJ

iii Anonymity of hospitals of database

Some concern has been expressed that the database is not fully anonymised until the questionnaires have been received and entered. It was pointed out, however, that it is not possible, logistically, to operate the scheme in any other way. There will always be a window between receipt of initial reports and receipt of questionnaires but every effort is made to ensure that the data is as secure as possible. Hospitals submitting initial reports will be reminded that full anonymity cannot be achieved until the questionnaire is returned.

HJ

99.17

Development of website

Dr. David Gozzard has undertaken the role of Web Master and is making good progress with the development of the site. Electronic versions of the report and summary have been sent to Dr. Gozzard for inclusion. Members will be informed as soon as the site is available to visit.

99.18

Scientific meetings and publications

i Presentations by Steering Group members

It was proposed that the SHOT office Powerpoint file should be provided to Steering Group members together with an abstract. Members are encouraged to use this to promote SHOT to as wide an audience as possible. Steering Group members should let the SHOT office have their e-mail addresses.

Note added after meeting: The file relating to the 1997/1998 report will be distributed in the near future and the Powerpoint file for 1998/1999 as soon as possible after the launch.

ALL

ii Workshop of blood identity

Dr. Love outlined the proposals for a workshop to be held at the Manchester Blood Centre on 30th September this year with the aim at looking at better patient identification systems and the best way to promote these. There was enthusiasm from the whole group for this scheme.

iii BMJ paper: update

Proofs have now been received and publication is imminent. Originally it was proposed to coincide the publication of the article with an editorial. However the editorial was published earlier and may be found in the BMJ, Vol. 318, page 1435

ACTION**99.19****AOB**

There were no items for discussion

99.20**Date of next meeting**

10th January 2000 2pm at the Royal College of Pathologists, 2 Carlton House Terrace,
London, SW1Y 5AF