

**Minutes of the thirty-ninth Meeting of NHS Blood and Transplant
held at 1.00pm on Thursday 29 July 2010
at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG**

Present:	Mr E Fullagar	Mr G Jenkins
	Mr A Blakeman	Ms S Jonhson
	Mr R Bradburn	Mr A McDermott
	Ms D Burnside	Dr C Ronaldson
	Dr C Costello	Mr S Williams
	Mr J Forsythe	Dr L Williamson
	Ms L Hamlyn	

In attendance:	Ms L Austin	Mr D Wenham
	Mr D Dryburgh	Dr R Jecock
	Mr D Evans	Ms K Ellis
	Mr D Metcalf	Ms J Minifie

10/54 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mr Greggains.

10/55 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

10/56 MATTERS ARISING

Paper 10/44 was noted. The Board also recorded the items they had discussed in the preceding, confidential section of the meeting. These were certain organisational matters which related to individual members of staff; certain commercial matters relating to BPL and to contracts for products, equipment or services; certain medical matters which related to individual donors; and certain policy matters relating to stem cell transplantation.

10/57 IVIG (GAMMAPLEX) PAEDIATRIC CLINICAL TRIAL IN PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY

Mr Bradburn presented the paper and the recommendation was approved.

10/58 CLINICAL GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Clinical Governance report was noted and Dr Williamson drew attention to item 3(v) – the decision by JPAC, supported by the MHRA, to approve a proposal that imported Fresh Frozen Plasma did not require HTLV testing. The issue would now be reconsidered by SaBTO at its October meeting.

Dr Williamson also drew attention to item 3(vi) - the Evaluation of Prion Filters. This concerned the discovery of a further error in data used within the HPA in connection with the independent validation of prion filters. As a result, the impact assessment which had been due for presentation to Ministers was currently on hold. The scientific implications of the error were being investigated and advice on next steps being sought. In the absence of another provider, the third tranche of work, already in progress, would continue but additional oversight measures had been established. Ms Hamlyn had written to the Chief Executive of the HPA on the Board's behalf following the previous incident. She had been in touch with him again and he was taking the matter very seriously. The findings of the investigations would be reported to the Board at the next meeting.

10/59 **PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Mr Bradburn presented the report. He highlighted the demand for red cells which was behind plan, the position on component donation platelets which was just below target, the BPL position, the timing related position on specialist services, and the position on organ donation.

Dr Costello asked what action was being taken on blood donor faints and rebleeds where initiatives taken appeared to have had little effect. Mr McDermott said there were questions around the robustness of the data being used to determine the target for faints and work was being done on this, including questions about the definition of an adverse event. He said that whilst rebleeds had increased in April, a slight decrease had been achieved in June although it was too early to say whether this trend would continue.

10/60 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive's report was noted. Ms Hamlyn had circulated the ALB Review Report to members on 26 July. She highlighted the important issues for NHSBT which were the divestment of BPL and the review of new commercial opportunities for the remainder of NHSBT. Dr Jecock said that the review of opportunities for further commercial effectiveness was due to be completed by the end of the calendar year (with the report likely to fall into 2011) and said that both NHSBT and the DH policy unit would be fully involved in scoping the review. Acknowledging the importance of controlling expenditure, Ms Hamlyn provided more detail on the changes in the level of monitoring and reporting requirements and drew attention to the challenges they presented to NHSBT as a front line service. She assured the Board that she would inform them if the requirements began to impact on her ability to deliver the strategic plan. She added that the most recent new requirement was payment of all creditors within five days which was not possible under NHSBT's funding arrangements and on which she was therefore seeking an

exemption. Dr Jecock acknowledged that the position needed to be resolved quickly.

On the possibility of introducing presumed consent for organ donation in Wales, Ms Hamlyn said that the Executive Team would be considering a paper in the near future dealing with the potential cost and governance implications. Following this a report would be used to advise colleagues in the Welsh Assembly and the DH to enable them to make any decisions on a fully informed basis.

Ms Hamlyn said she was delighted that good work by blood stock planning colleagues and a successful marketing campaign had maintained blood stock levels during the World Cup period, thus avoiding a repetition of the serious drop in the amount of blood collected during the 2006 World Cup.

Finally, Ms Hamlyn drew attention to Minister, Anne Milton's visit to the Royal London Hospital where she had met patients and staff in the transplant unit during 'Transplant Week'. Ms Hamlyn had invited the Minister to visit one of NHSBT's sites to help her gain insight into other areas of our work.

10/61 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

10/62 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists on Thursday 30 September.

10/63 **NHSBT ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2009/2010**

The Annual Report & Accounts was noted.

10/64 **ANNUAL HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER ON SICKNESS ABSENCE AND WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS**

The reports were noted.

10/65 **RESEARCH FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH 2010-2015**

The paper was noted.

10/66 **MINUTES OF THE R & D COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12.4.10**

The minutes were noted.

10/67 **MINUTES OF THE GAC MEETINGS HELD ON 18.5.10 AND 8.6.10**

The minutes were noted.

10/68 **GAC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Annual Report and Terms of Reference were noted.

10/69 **SUMMARY OF REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12.7.10**

The summary was noted.

10/70 **NHSBT INTERNATIONAL SERVICES APRIL 2009 TO JUNE 2010**

The paper was noted.

10/71 **REGISTER OF SEALINGS**

The register of sealings was noted.

10/72 **FORWARD AGENDA PLAN**

The forward agenda plan was noted.