

Practical Introduction to Transfusion Science (PITS)

The course is for:

AfC band: 4 or 5

- Healthcare / Biomedical Scientist trainees
- Healthcare / Biomedical Scientists from multi-disciplinary pathology laboratories who require basic transfusion science laboratory knowledge / skills
- Healthcare / Biomedical Scientists with limited knowledge of blood transfusion science or who are returning to work from a career break (may be higher than Band 5)

Course Structure

Course - 5 days in total (but not 5 consecutive days) consists of:

- Pre-course learning (released 2 weeks prior to online block)
- A 3-day online teaching block - digital learning and virtual classrooms
- Two days practical session in an NHSBT teaching laboratory

Aims of the Programme

- To provide underpinning knowledge of basic routine practical techniques used within a transfusion laboratory
- To provide some basic practical experience of routine transfusion techniques.

Programme Content

This blended learning course includes digital packages, virtual classrooms, on-line tutorials, cases with data interpretation and practical experience. The programme covers:

- An introduction to Antigens and Antibodies
- The ABO and Rh Blood Group Systems
- An introduction to other Blood Group Systems
- Antibody Screening and basic Antibody Investigation

- Routine Pre-Transfusion Testing
- Basic 'Blood Serology' techniques
- An introduction to Pregnancy and Transfusion
- Donor to Door – the journey of blood
- Hazards of Transfusion

Assessment – the course will include reviews of learning and quizzes plus a final assessment after the practical sessions have been completed

Pre-requisites for Attendance

- Sound understanding of safe laboratory practice

Pre-course Material

Pre-course material and links will be sent 2 weeks prior to the 3-day block.

You will receive:

- A link to a basic transfusion science learning module to be completed prior to attendance plus additional reading
- A printable resource provided to accompany activities and case studies covered in online sessions
- The programme timetable

Core reading material that may help you with this programme:

- Relevant BSH guidelines
- The Handbook of Transfusion Medicine

Course Times

Pre-course resources – 2 weeks prior to 3-day block

3 - day block: 10.00 – 16.00 via zoom and *Brightspace*

2 day practical: 10.00 – 16.00 NHSBT centre
(NHSBT teaching laboratories: London, Filton, Manchester, Newcastle, Barnsley)

Further information...

To book a place on this course please complete the registration form [here](#)

For enquires, email HRDirect@nhsbt.nhs.uk