

## The Update for February 2026

### **Updated version of the Blood Components app went live on 24 February 2026 Information for users**

Users who downloaded the app via the Apple App Store or Google Play will be prompted to update it the next time they open it after this date.

On first opening, users will be asked to select their UK region. Based on this selection, the app will display a warning banner if the relevant National Blood Service has an active amber or red component stock alert. The app has also been updated to reflect the 2024 National Blood Transfusion Committee (NBTC) indication codes.

Tracey Tomlinson - National Lead, Patient Blood Management

### **The Customer Satisfaction survey launches on 2 March for transfusion laboratory managers to rate us on our services**

We'll be sending our survey to transfusion laboratory managers next month. Their feedback is invaluable; it helps us to focus on developing our services, turning the insights we get into actions that improve our performance and hospitals' satisfaction.

You can read the results from the [Autumn 2025 survey](#) which detail improvements made and other areas for improvement we are focusing on.

Zoë Johnson - Customer Service Manager, Hospital Customer Service

### **New Blood Transfusion Training eLearning pathways available with certification**

Four Essential Transfusion Practice (ETP) learning pathways are now available for staff, in specific roles, that do not need to complete the whole ETP module. They are:

1. Taking a Pre-Transfusion Sample
2. Collection
3. Requesting
4. Observation

Certification is available for each pathway.

They can be accessed via elfh - elearning for healthcare, ESR – Electronic Staff Record, and eIntegrity.

Anne Davidson - Education Lead, Patient Blood Management

**Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) February's newsletter is now available  
Sign up to receive the newsletter**

The highlights in this month's newsletter are:

- Registration and abstract submissions for the 2026 Annual SHOT Symposium are open
- Registration for England's joint haemovigilance workshops delivered by SHOT and the MHRA is open (free to attend)
- SHOT has created a series of dashboards can be used to view real-time data and export an overview of cases reported to SHOT from your reporting account
- The new 2026 SHOT definitions guide on what events are reportable to SHOT is now available

[Read the newsletter](#)

[Sign up](#) to receive the newsletter every month.

Claire Wroe - SHOT Clinical Incident Specialist

**Field Safety Notice: FSN 2025-05 FastQ B27 HLA testing update - normal testing is now resumed**

We are pleased to communicate we resumed normal testing on 9 February 2026 following the supplier field notice (FSN 2025-05 FastQ B27 HLA) in September 2025. This means we returned to the standard reporting format for this testing on 9 February 2026.

A root cause analysis was completed by the supplier confirming this issue was observed in only one laboratory using analysis equipment which was not validated by the supplier for this test. This provided an opportunity for optimisation by the supplier which resulted in minor modifications to the assay procedure. These changes have been implemented by NHSBT in the updated testing instruction from the supplier.

If you have any queries, please direct them to [HINATNL@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:HINATNL@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

Thank you for your patience.

Dr Katy Latham PhD FRCPATH

The Update is produced by Hospital Customer Service on behalf of NHS Blood and Transplant

[NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:NHSBT.customerservice@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

0208 201 3107