

# NHS Blood and Transplant

## R&D Committee

### Annual Report 2016/17

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The R&D Committee has prepared this report to the NHSBT Board to demonstrate how it satisfied its terms of reference during 2016/17.

#### 2. OVERVIEW

The Board has delegated authority to the Committee to provide strategic oversight of an innovative, cohesive, high quality programme of research and development (R&D) which includes a balance of short and long-term research and meets the requirements of the Strategy Groups which link research, development and operational staff in each business area. The Committee aims for timely translation of research findings into new products and services, to deliver improvements to the efficiency, efficacy and safety of blood, tissues, cellular and organ products and services for donors and patients.

The Terms of Reference of the R&D Committee were reviewed by the Committee at their meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

#### 3. MEMBERSHIP

Several changes to membership of the R&D Committee took place in the reporting period because of changes at Board level, these included Paresh Vyas replacing Christine Costello as Chair of the Committee. The Membership at the end of the reporting period was:

##### **Committee Members**

Paresh Vyas (Chair of RDC, Non-Executive Director)  
Rob Bradburn (Finance Director)  
Louise Fullwood (Non-Executive Director)  
Sally Johnson (Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation)  
Harvey Klein (NIH, USA: External expert)  
Peter Lidstone (Director of Manufacturing & Logistics)  
Gail Miflin (Medical & Research Director)  
Jeremy Monroe (Non-Executive Director)  
Ellen van der Schoot (Sanquin, The Netherlands: External Expert)  
Mike Stredder (Director of Blood Donation)  
Jonas Wadstrom (University of Stockholm, Sweden: External Expert)  
Huw Williams (Director of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services)

##### **Observers**

Emanuele Di Angelantonio (PI observer)  
Dave Collett (Associate Director, Statistics & Clinical Studies)  
Sarah McAllister (National Research Manager, Minutes)  
Rutger Ploeg (PI observer)  
Chris Sims (Planning and Management Accountant, Group Services)

Simon Stanworth (PI observer)  
Nick Watkins (Assistant Director, Research & Development)

#### **4. COMPLIANCE WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Formal meetings of the R&D Committee were held on 19<sup>th</sup> May and 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Both meetings were quorate.

#### **5. DUTIES AND FINDINGS**

1. The Committee reviewed and accepted progress against the objectives of the 2015 – 2020 R&D Strategy.
2. The Committee approved funding competitions for research studies to support the delivery of the 2015 – 2020 R&D Strategy. These included competitions for a clinical trial in acquired coagulopathy, behavioural research and big data/machine learning.
3. The Committee approved funding for separate studies on the viral regulation of T-cell metabolism and organ conditioning.
4. The Committee approved an extension to funding for the QUOD National BioResource.
5. The Committee accepted progress reports from the National Institute for Health Research Blood and Transplant Units.
6. The Committee reviewed progress on all active workpackages and projects within the reporting period.
7. The Committee accepted a report on the activity of our Principal Investigators (PI) and recognised their ability to attract external funding and publish their results in Internationally leading journals.
8. The Committee accepted annual reports on Intellectual Property, the status of active Trust Fund awards and the Clinical Fellows which we support.
9. The Committee agreed a workplan for future meetings.

#### **6. CONCLUSION**

The R&D Committee has complied with its terms of reference from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

**Nick Watkins, Assistant Director – Research and Development  
November 2017**