

Annual SHOT Report 2014 – Supplementary Information

Chapter 24: Handling and Storage Errors (HSE)

DATA SUMMARY							
Total number of cases: n=188							
Implicated components			Mortality/morbidity				
Red cells		153	Deaths <i>definitely</i> due to transfusion		0		
Fresh Frozen Plasma		13	Deaths <i>probably/likely</i> due to transfusion		0		
Platelets		21	Deaths <i>possibly</i> due to transfusion		0		
Cryoprecipitate		0	Major morbidity		0		
Granulocytes		0	Potential for major morbidity (<i>Anti-D or K only</i>)		0		
Anti-D Ig		0					
Multiple components		1					
Unknown		0					
Gender		Age	Emergency vs. routine and core hours vs. out of core hours		Where transfusion took place		
Male	89	≥ 18 years	156	Emergency	23	Emergency Department	6
Female	91	16 years to <18 years	1	Urgent	33	Theatre	12
Not known	8	1 year to <16 years	5	Routine	117	ITU/NNU/HDU/Recovery	21
		>28 days to <1 year	4	Not known	15	Wards	93
		Birth to ≤28 days	5	In core hours	87	Delivery Ward	9
		Not known	17	Out of core hours	46	Postnatal	3
				Not known/Not applicable	55	Medical Assessment Unit	13
						Community	5
						Outpatient/day unit	5
						Hospice	3
						Antenatal Clinic	0
						Other	17
						Unknown	1

(ITU=Intensive therapy unit; NNU=Neonatal unit; HDU=High dependency unit)

Handling and Storage Errors (HSE) - Previous Recommendations

Year first made	Action	Recommendation
2011	Blood Services, Hospital Transfusion laboratory managers	It is the requirement of all staff involved in the storage and transportation of blood components to make sure they are trained and competent to their local transfusion policy; this will ensure the correct temperature of each blood component is maintained and a clear documentation trail is available should the component be returned to storage
2011	Transfusion Practitioners, Hospital Laboratory Managers, Hospital Transfusion Committees	Laboratory and clinical staff should be familiar with the capability and capacity of their cold chain storage and monitoring equipment. Containers and or devices used to store and transport blood should be mapped and validated for purpose.
2009	HTCs, HTTs	Maintaining cold temperature storage conditions and guaranteeing the capture of valid and accurate monitoring data is the responsibility of all staff involved in the storage, transportation and administration of blood components. Clear guidance should be provided regarding the removal (and return should it not be required) of every blood component from validated storage areas.
2009	HTTs	As part of the competency assessment process the importance of checking the expiry date during the collection / final patient identity checks must be emphasised to all practitioners.
2008	HTCs	Hospitals should review who collects and transports blood. Only appropriately trained, competent staff should participate in the collection and transport of blood components. All staff must have sufficient knowledge to appreciate the critical points in the task.