

Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) 2023 Key Recommendations Survey Report

Survey aims and response rate

The key recommendations survey aims to understand progress made in implementing key SHOT recommendations in UK Trusts/Health Boards. This survey was circulated 9 months following the release of the 2023 key recommendations. Distribution of the electronic survey (Online surveys) to hospital governance teams was coordinated by each UK blood service on behalf of SHOT, and a bespoke link for each UK nation was provided. For the purpose of this report, responses from all nations have been combined into a UK wide report.

Questions were multiple-choice, with drop down options and some free text facility. One response was requested per Trust/Health Board. A total of 54 anonymised responses were received in with representation from Trusts/Health Boards across the UK.

Report Summary

- 54 anonymised responses were received in full representing UK organisations in all nations
- There were some comments regarding the need for fewer SHOT recommendations
- Due to the survey length not all responses and information has been included in this summary
- If further specific national data on responses is required SHOT can be contacted at shot@nhsbt.nhs.uk



Resources

SHOT continually develops haemovigilance resources for education and training, including SHOT Bites, webinars, videos and SHOTcasts.



All the resources are available on the website (shotuk.org/resources/) and can be accessed on the SHOT app (search SHOTUK or use the QR codes on the left).

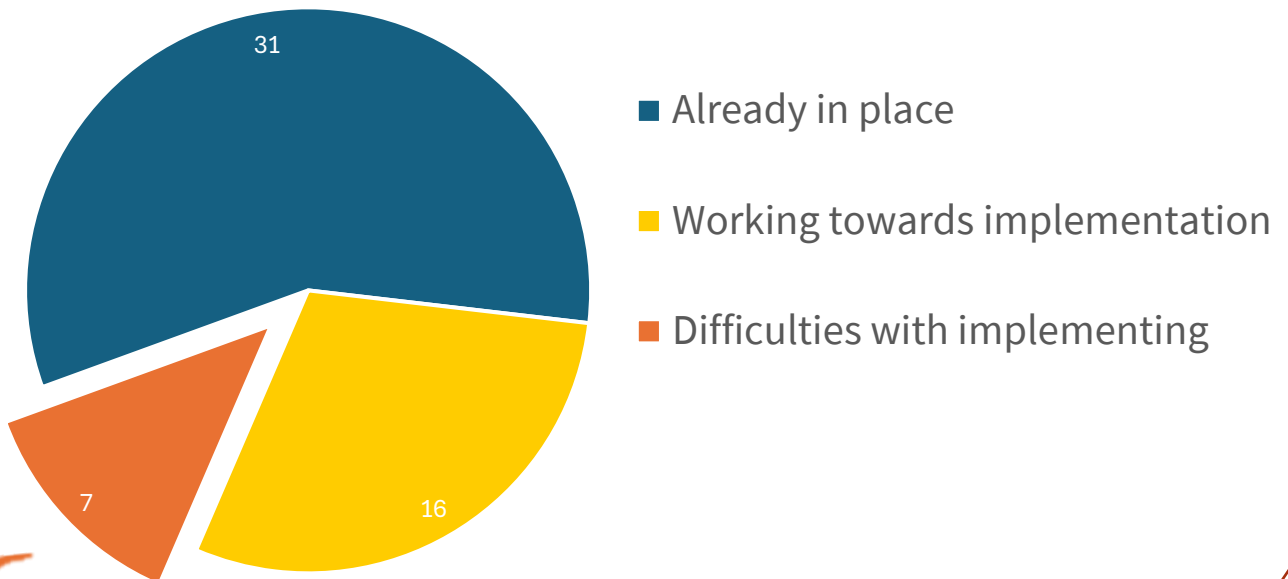


THANK YOU!

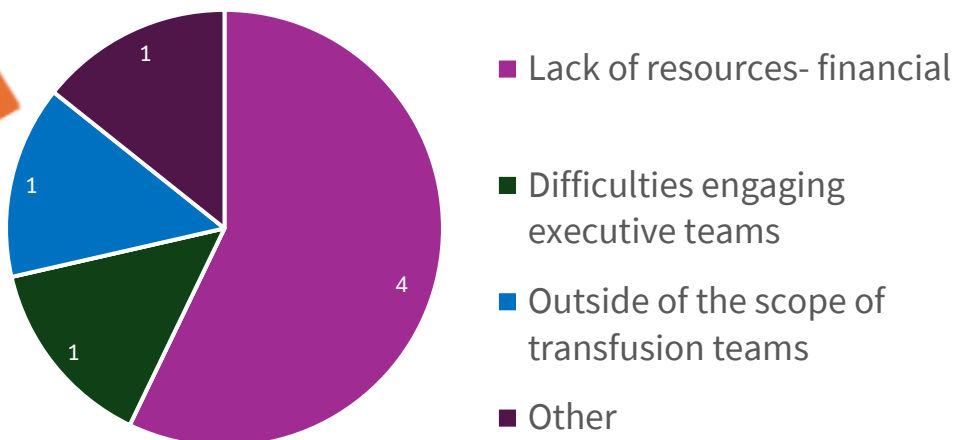


The SHOT team would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the survey. Your feedback is very useful, will help inform future activities and is sincerely appreciated. The full Annual SHOT Report 2023 is available here:
[2023 Annual SHOT Report](#)

Key Recommendation 1: Addressing patient identification errors to enhance transfusion safety



Main difficulties with implementing Key Recommendation 1

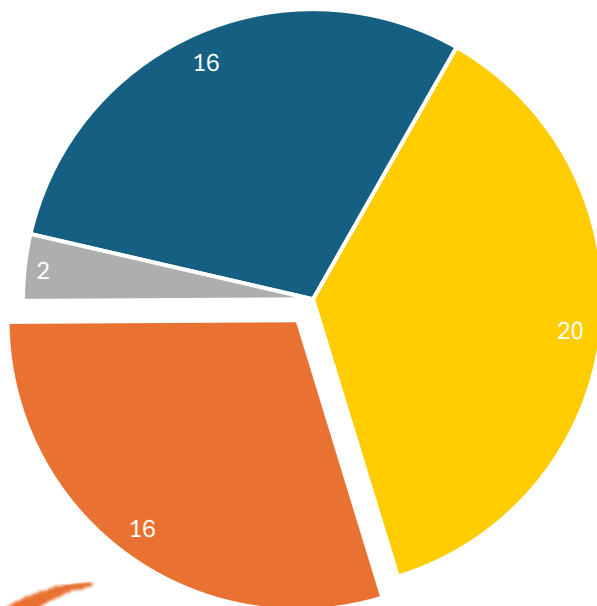


Responses indicate:

- 31/54 (57.4%) Trusts/Health boards responded that the recommendation was already in place
- 7/31 (12.9%) had difficulties with implementing the recommendation. Key reasons were due to the recommendation being outside of the scope of transfusion teams, lack of financial resources and difficulties engaging executive teams

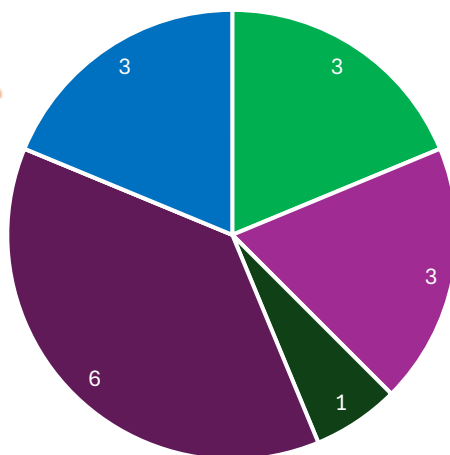


Key Recommendation 2: Safe staffing to support safe transfusions



- Already in place
- Working towards implementation
- Difficulties with implementing
- No plans to implement

Main difficulties with implementing Key Recommendation 2



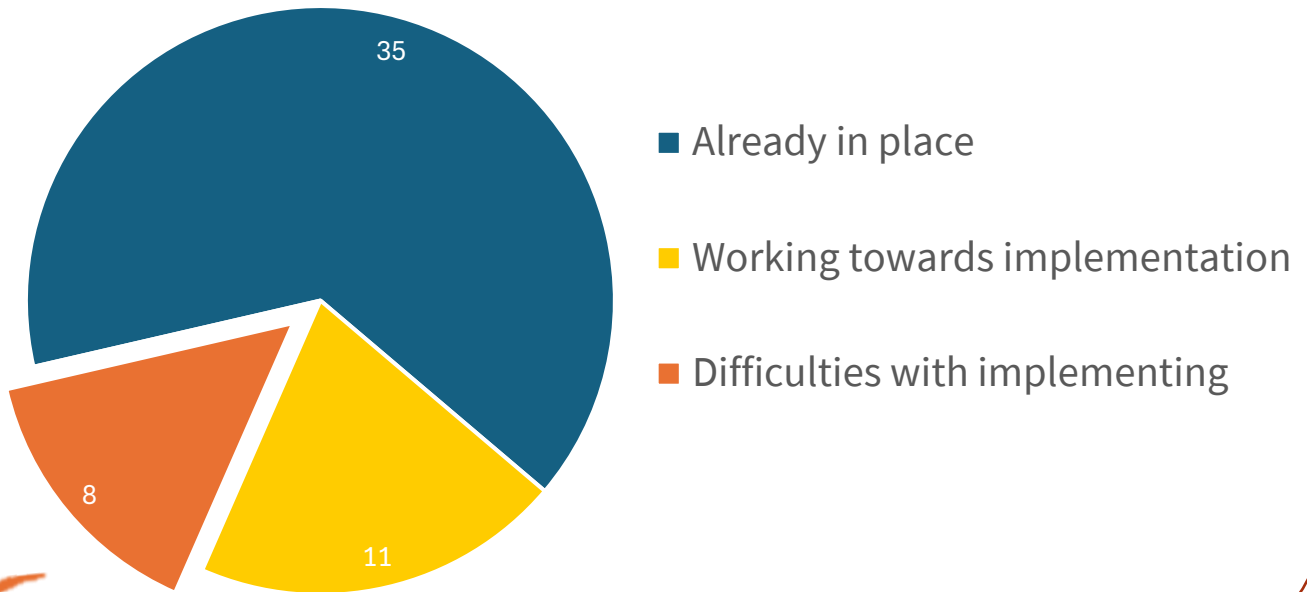
- Lack of resources - staff
- Lack of resources- financial
- Difficulties engaging executive teams
- Other
- Outside of the scope of transfusion teams

Responses indicate:

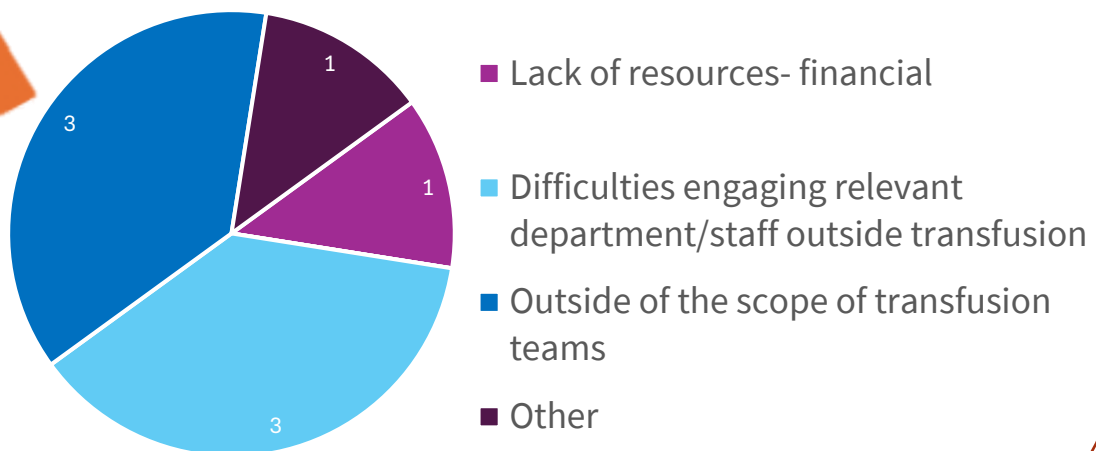
- 36/54 (66.6%) Trusts/Health boards responded that the recommendation was already in place or are working towards implementation
- 16/54 (29.6%) had difficulties with implementing the recommendation. Key reasons were due to lack of financial and staffing resources, and difficulties engaging executive teams



Key Recommendation 3: Effective, timely communications to ensure safe transfusions



Main difficulties with implementing Key Recommendation 3



Responses indicate:

- 35/54 (64.8%) Trusts/Health boards responded that the recommendation was already in place
- 8/54 (14.8%) had difficulties with implementing the recommendation. Key reasons were due to the recommendation being outside of the scope of transfusion teams, lack of financial resources and difficulties engaging executive teams

7 C's of safe and effective communication



New for 2025 – SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards

Background

In July 2025, SHOT released the SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards covering various aspects of patient care and staff wellbeing. They have been developed with the aim of driving continuous improvement, safety, and resilience across healthcare. The intention and requirements/criteria for each are also provided.

Feedback from recommendations surveys has consistently demonstrated that organisations have had challenges with trying to comply with SHOT recommendations that changed, or new ones each year. The SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards that replace the recommendations from serial Annual SHOT Reports provide a static framework with short, medium and long terms goals.

There will no longer be an annual recommendations survey from SHOT at this time. Any plans for future surveys for the SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards will be determined as needed. Topic focused surveys will continue to be issued where indicated.

The SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards are also provided with accompanying resources, which include a timeline and a frequently asked questions document, with further documents to follow. Click on the link or scan the QR codes below to access the SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards and supporting information:



<https://www.shotuk.org/transfusion-safety/transfusion-safety-standards/>

