Developing Clinical Standards for Blood Transfusion

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Aims of presentation

• Background
• Evidence
• Standard Themes
• Development Process
NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS)

- Established in January 2003
- To lead NHSScotland (NHSS) in improving the quality of care and treatment it provides
- To report to the public on the performance of NHSS against nationally agreed standards
NHS Quality Improvement Scotland


Main Recommendations included:
- The development and dissemination of standards for transfusion practice
• Develop (and revise) clinical and non-clinical standards ensuring consultation with stakeholders

• Develop Quality Assurance Frameworks and accreditation programmes for Managed Clinical Networks

• Liaise with other standard setting organisations e.g. National Care Standards Committee
The standards set by NHS QIS are:

- focused on clinical issues and include non-clinical factors that impact on the quality of care;
- written in simple language;
- based on evidence;
- written in account of other recognised standards and guidelines.
Performance Assessment & Practice Development Directorate

Performance Assessment Unit

• Support self assessment framework
• Undertake visits
• Publish the findings
Serious Hazards of Transfusion Reporting Scheme (1996-2004)

IBCT (69.7%)
ATR (10.2%)
DTR (9.7%)
PTP (1.7%)
TRALI (6.2%)
TA-GVHD (0.5%)
TTI (1.8%)
Unclassified (0.3%)

Cumulative Data - Questionnaires Analysed 2628
Serious Hazards of Transfusion Reporting Scheme (1996-2004)

“Wrong blood incidents are without exception avoidable errors!”

“The formal patient identity check at the bedside is the final opportunity to prevent a mis-transfusion”
Scoping the standards

• Clinical advisors joined NHS QIS in April 2005
• Wide range of evidence reviewed including: systematic reviews database*; national BCSH transfusion guidelines, SIGN guideline, SEHD advice, relevant research / audit studies etc
• AGREE guideline assessment tool
• CASP assessment tools
• Potential areas for standard development identified

*www.transfusion guidelines.org.uk; SIGN = Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network; BCSH = British Committee for Standards in Haematology; SEHD = Scottish Executive Health Department
The Patient Transfusion Episode

- Manage Adverse Event
- Decision to transfuse
- Inform
- Request Blood
- Pre-transfusion Sample
- Group & Screen
- Select Compatible Units
- Collect
- Issue
- Pre-administration Check
- Administer Transfusion
- Monitor
- Record Episode

Patient
Key Personnel

- Clinical Support Workers
- Porters
- Phlebotomists
- Biomedical Scientists
- Medical Laboratory Assistants
- Medical Students
- Doctors (all grades)
- Nursing students
- Nurses (all grades)
- Midwives
- Operating Department Practitioners
Patient Data Sets

Minimum
• Surname
• Forename
• Sex
• Date of birth
• Hospital number
• Address (optional)

Mandatory
• Request type e.g. G&S
• Reason for request
• Requesting doctor
• Number / type / special requirements
• Date & time required
Potential areas for standards

- Core Principles
- Clinical Management – pre-transfusion
- Clinical Management – laboratory
- Clinical Management – administration
Project Steering Group

• Convened July 2005
• Chaired by Dr R Heading
• Members included:
  – Clinical advisors
  – Nurses
  – Doctors
  – Laboratory scientists / managers
  – Clinical Risk co-ordinator
  – Trainers
  – Information analyst
  – Lay representatives
• Reviewed Scoping report
Project Steering Group

- Met five times, July 2005 to March 2006
- Draft clinical standards published December 2005
- 3-month consultation period
- 2 pilot visits, 2 open meetings
- Met twice in July 2006 to review comments, finalise content
- Standards published 22 September 2006
Format of the Standards

- **Title:**
  *Summarises the area on which the standard focuses*

- **Standard statement:**
  *The level of performance to be achieved*

- **Rationale:**
  *The reason why the standard is considered important*

- **Criteria:**
  - Essential
  - Desirable
Implementation Process

- NHSS Boards - minimum 6 months to implement Standards
- Performance Assessment Visit
- Self-assessment Framework
- Feedback
- Written Report
Acknowledgements

- Project Steering Group Members
- NHS QIS Standards Development Team
- SNBTS
- NHS Scotland
Further information can be accessed at our website on www.nhshealthquality.org