

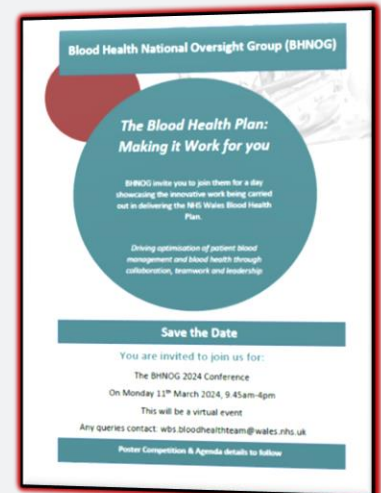


Anaemia Programme Newsletter

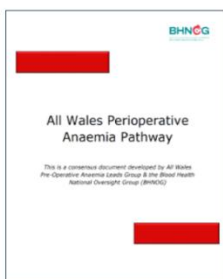
March 2024

BHNOG virtual Conference 2024

This year's BHNOG annual conference 'The Blood Health Plan: Making it work for you' was held virtually on Monday 11th March. Opened by Sir Frank Atherton, the conference showcased innovative work used to deliver the Blood Health Plan's strategic aims. An exciting array of presentations and posters were provided by subject matter experts in both Patient Blood Management (PBM), Education and Training; Service Improvement; Quality, Regulatory and Audit. We would like to congratulate the overall poster presentation winner Debra Evans, a cardiothoracic clinical nurse specialist from Swansea Bay University Health Board. All presentations can be viewed [here](#).



Preoperative Anaemia Pathway Revision



The team is excited to have distributed the newly revised pathway to stakeholders for final review. The more accurately titled preoperative pathway builds upon the standards of the original guidance, focusing on major surgeries at high risk of bleeding, but now incorporates clarity on use of Erythropoietin Stimulating Agents (ESA), Genetic Haemochromatosis (GH) and Preoperative Anaemia Screen (POAS) guidance. Please contact our team or local Preoperative Assessment Clinic (POAC) leadership team to be involved in this consultation.



World Anaemia Awareness Day

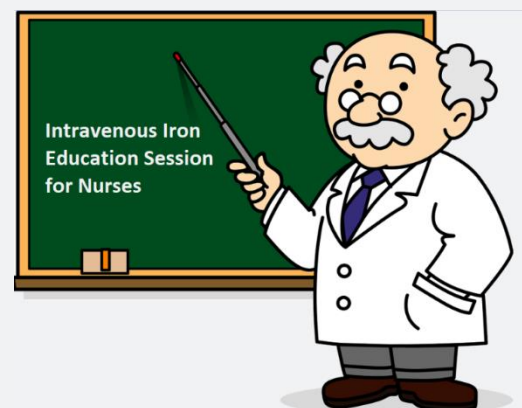
Colleagues across Welsh preoperative services and the blood supply chain came together to participate in supporting World Anaemia Awareness Day. Held annually on February 13th (13 representing the ideal haemoglobin number for optimal blood health).



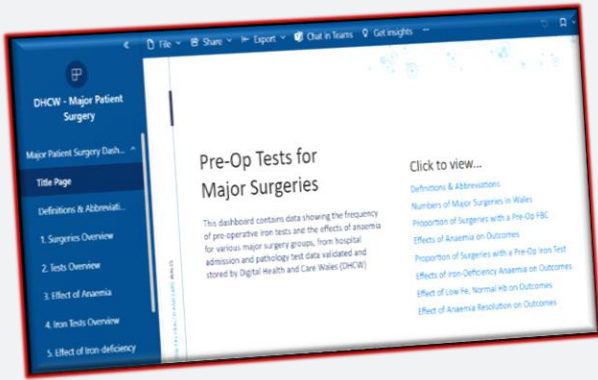
World Anaemia Day promotes awareness of anaemia and iron deficiency, whilst highlighting the importance of preventative action in supporting blood health. The post can be accessed [here](#).

Education and Training

The anaemia team delivered their first Intravenous IV iron education session for preoperative nurses in collaboration with iron reps in December 2023. Guest speaker Victoria Carlyle, a clinical educator, and Subject Matter Expert (SME) in iron deficiency anaemia delivered a well-informed and well-received presentation to nurses across all Welsh Health Boards. We aim to provide further education sessions, in addition to PBM sessions as part of a periodic schedule of education for our nursing colleagues. A recording of the session can be accessed [here](#).



Data delivery



Progress is continuing to be made with development of the national anaemia dashboard. Built using a number of data streams, the dashboard evidences the number of patients undergoing major surgery that are anaemic and the impact of anaemia on their clinical outcomes.

Work is ongoing to develop a new data stream for capturing treatment of preoperative anemia, transfusion, and iron therapy. This is the most complicated aspect of this programme, with progress slow but steady through collaborative working between the anemia team and Digital Health and Care Wales and hospital stakeholders.

What's next for the anaemia project?

2023 was a year of success for the anaemia programme and its stakeholders, achieving many of its two-year objectives within a one-year timeline. 2024 brings new and exciting developments. We particularly look forward to implementing the new revised pathway and continue to make strides in data delivery through the anaemia dashboard. Further toolkit resources are to be released including a new prescription chart and nurse Intravenous (IV) administration guidance. We aim to deliver an improved F1 and F2 junior doctor teaching sessions that includes anaemia management scenarios, in addition to further IV iron and Patient Blood Management (PBM) teaching session for nurses.

To view the BHNOG Preoperative Anaemia toolkit please click [here](#)

This newsletter has been distributed on behalf of the BHNOG Anaemia Programme Team.

Please feel free to forward to colleagues or other interested parties.

For further information or updates please contact the Blood Health Team: WBS.bloodhealthteam@wales.nhs.uk

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