

Blood Health National Oversight Group (BHN OG)

Education Strategy Group (ESG)

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Infected Blood Inquiry (IBI)¹ recommendations 3 & 7d highlighted the ongoing need for transfusion education for all involved with the transfusion process to ensure patient safety. The NHS Wales Blood Health Plan (BHP)² acknowledges the responsibility of the Blood Health National Oversight Group (BHN OG) in supporting the IBI recommendations, specifically recommendation 7: patient safety: Blood Transfusion.

The BHN OG Education Strategy Group (ESG) has been established to develop and implement the BHN OG Education Strategy 2024³, in alignment with the BHP and therefore delivery of the IBI education recommendations.

The ESG will develop a programme of work (ESG workplan) to ensure equitable delivery of training and education relating to safe transfusion practice and patient blood management.

2. Aim

The aim of the ESG is to provide the oversight and direction to ensure a cohesive and standardised approach to education and training across Wales, as laid out in the education strategy. This will ensure consistency of message, a baseline level of knowledge and prevent duplication of efforts to optimise the workforce. This will be achieved through working in partnership with education providers, key healthcare professionals and subject matter experts to deliver the ESG workplan.

3. Governance

The ESG is accountable to the BHN OG and follows recognised governance pathways defined in the BHN OG terms of reference⁴.

4. Chair

The ESG group will be chaired by a representative from within the core membership group and endorsed by the BHN OG. A deputy Chair will also be recruited once the group is fully established. Term of office in this role is a minimum of 2 years.

5. Membership

The membership will be coordinated to ensure equitable representation from NHS Wales Health Boards (HBs). Should a core member be unable to attend, it is expected that a designated deputy will attend in their place wherever possible. A quorum of 4/6 HB representation is expected to ensure valid and equitable decisions can be made.

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Core Membership
Welsh Blood Service (WBS) Laboratory Education representation
WBS Blood Health Team (BHT) representation
Health Education and Innovation Wales representation
Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) Working Group Chair
All Wales Transfusion Practitioners (TP) Group representative
Transfusion Laboratory Managers (TLM) Group representative
Transfusion Quality Lead representative
Haematologist / Haematology SpR representative
Independent Authorisation of Blood Component Transfusion (IABT) Programme Lead
Foundation Programme Doctors representative
Non-core Members
Undergraduate Medical Education representative
Undergraduate Nursing Education representative
Undergraduate Midwifery Education representative
Undergraduate Allied Healthcare Programmes Education representative
Post-graduate Medical Education representative
Learning, Education and Development representative
PWEG Scientific Education Group representative

6. Meeting Format & Documentation Required

The ESG will meet quarterly prior to the BHN OG meetings; ESG meetings will be held virtually over MS Teams.

The BHT will provide administration support.

The following documentation will be required:

- Notes of the preceding meeting and action log
- Documentation supporting agenda items
- Quarterly highlight reports

7. Remit

The remit of the ESG is to:

- Work to the ESG workplan, which will be reviewed and revised in alignment with the NHS Wales BHP² (3 yearly cycle)
- Produce and submit quarterly highlight reports for the BHN OG meetings
- Produce national level evidence and data relating to the implementation and delivery of the BHN OG Education Strategy and ESG workplan.

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8. References

¹Infected Blood Inquiry: The Report 2024

https://www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk/sites/default/files/Volume_1.pdf

² The NHS Wales Blood Health Plan 2024-2027

<https://bhnog.wales.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/BHP-2024.pdf>

³ BHN OG Transfusion Education Strategy 2024

⁴BHN OG Terms of Reference

<https://bhnog.wales.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/BHN OG-Approved-ToR.pdf>