



Welcome to the April 2024 SHOT Newsletter



SHOT Symposium – Tues 9 July , Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel Manchester



Reminder to register!

Early bird rate of £110 available when payment received before 31st May



Why not submit an abstract to share your excellent practice and innovative ideas? All accepted abstracts will receive a **FREE** delegate space for the lead author



There are a limited number **FREE** bursary places available to students and those working and AFC band 6 or below (or equivalent). Why not apply to join us?

Last remaining spaces for exhibitors!

If you are interested, please contact SHOT.symposium@nhsbt.nhs.uk






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TACO Safety Alert

A UK-wide national patient safety alert to address the rising deaths from TACO has been issued by MHRA on Thursday 04 April 2024

Reducing risks for transfusion-associated circulatory overload

Date of Issue:	4-Apr-24	Reference No:	NatPSA/2024/004/MHRA
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This alert is for action by: NHS and independent (acute and specialist) organisations where transfusions occur


This is a safety critical and complex National Patient Safety Alert that is relevant across many departments and professions. Implementation should be coordinated by an executive leader (or equivalent role in organisations without executive boards) and supported by their designated senior leads for medical, nursing, midwifery, scientific and allied health professionals.

This is the link to view the alert



<https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/national-patient-safety-alert-reducing-risks-for-transfusion-associated-circulatory-overload-natpsa-slash-2024-slash-004-slash-mhra>

Central Alerting System

The screenshot shows the 'Central Alerting System' interface. It includes a 'Latest Alert Broadcasts' table with columns for date and description. The most recent alert is dated 04Apr2024 and concerns 'Storage of subcutaneous 2.5mg/2.5ml and 5mg/2.5ml netupir liquid unit dose vials'. There is also a 'News' section with a date of 26/05/2022.

This is also available on the [CAS alert page](#)



An FAQ document and a gap analysis tool to support the implementation of this alert is available on the SHOT website – click the link [TACO cumulative data page](#)



SHOT Recommendations Survey



The online SHOT Recommendations Survey 2022 closed on 5th April 2024 and analysis of responses will be taking place over the coming weeks. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all organisations and reporters that responded to the survey and will publish a report on the results in due course – please look out for this in future editions!



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OCTAPLAS(LG)[®] GROUPING NOTICE

Following review of an incorrect blood component transfused – wrong component transfused (IBCT-WCT) error to SHOT, and subsequent communication with Octapharma, we would like to remind reporters of the grouping requirements for octaplasLG[®], and how these differ from FFP.

1. Groups for administration

The OctaplasLG Summary of Product Characteristics

(<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/4171/smpc/print>) states:

'Administration of OctaplasLG[®] must be based on ABO-blood group specificity. In emergency cases, OctaplasLG[®] blood group AB can be regarded as universal plasma since it can be given to all patients regardless of blood group.'



Therefore, it is **NOT** acceptable to use OctaplasLG[®] across groups unlike rules for high titre negative FFP (e.g., group A patient can receive group B FFP which is high-titre (HT) negative negative)

2. Anti-A and anti-B titres

OctaplasLG[®] CANNOT be considered HT negative for anti-A and anti-B antigens

"Octapharma has no data regarding the anti-A/anti-B titres in OctaplasLG[®] since we do not routinely test for these during the batch release process... analysis of batches of octaplasLG[®] indicate there is some variation in antibody levels between bags."

3. Summary



If the patient's own group OctaplasLG[®] is not available, to comply with manufacturers specifications group AB OctaplasLG[®] should be issued.

We would like to prompt reporters to review their local policies to determine if these conditions are met.



Home Transfusion Survey

We have recently shared a survey on behalf of 'The Biomedical Excellence for Safer Transfusion (BEST) Collaborative' collecting data on international home transfusion practices. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been renewed interest and demand for home transfusion to better serve patients. Therefore, there is a need to understand the current extent to which home transfusion has become available internationally and to understand how experienced sites have made home transfusion feasible and safe for patients.

Participation in this study is voluntary. The SHOT team have collaborated with the BEST team for this initiative and the data from UK will help us identify appropriate improvement actions to enhance transfusion safety. We would like to thank you for considering taking part in this study. If you are interested in participating and have not received a link to the survey, please email us and we will share the link.

National Haemoglobinopathy Registry and NHSBT data linkage

The [National Haemoglobinopathy Registry](#) (NHR) is a register of people in the UK with all types of inherited red cell disorders. The register is held by NHS England and is intended to support direct clinical care, and for commissioning services within England.

The NHR- NHSBT data linkage went live on Tuesday 12 March 2024. NHSBT red cell antibody data held on NHSBT systems is now available in the NHR on the transfusion tab and will be clearly marked as NHSBT red cell antibody records. This is a significant improvement in transfusion safety for patients who may need blood transfusion either as part of routine care or as an emergency. The data transfer will happen routinely every night to ensure new results move into the NHR, so the data is as up to date as possible. This is a key milestone for NHSBT and NHSE in ensuring that critical results important for safe transfusion practice are available to clinical teams who need the information. All hospitals will continue to also communicate with the patient's normal haemoglobinopathy centre transfusion lab to ensure that any results that may not be part of the NHSBT Antibody record are also including in any decision-making regarding transfusion



Forthcoming conferences

Look out for the SHOT team at the following events



BSH – 64th Annual Scientific Meeting
28-30 April 2024
Liverpool, UK

[Register](#)

Exhibition stand and posters



BGS Transfusion Conference
22-24 April 2024
Nottingham, UK

[Register](#)

Exhibition stand and workshop



Scotblood Annual Conference
30-31st May 2024
Stirling, UK

[Register](#)

Exhibition stand and presentation



ISBT Conference
23 – 27 June 2024
Barcelona, Spain

[Register](#)

Abstracts submitted – watch this space!



BBTS Annual Conference
17 – 19 Sept 2024
Glasgow, UK

[Register](#)



Other Educational events



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