

Blood Transfusion GC2 minutes

Blood Transfusion (tranexamic acid update) – committee meeting 2 minutes

**Date:** 30/09/2025

**Location:** Virtual

**Minutes:** Final

**Committee members present:**

Ian Bernstein	Committee Chair	Present for items 1-15
Martin Besser	Haematologist	Present for items 1-7, 9-15
Margaret Cheng	Lay member	Present for items 1-14
Claire Frank	Pharmacist	Present for items 1-15
Mario Ganau	Surgeon (neurosurgeon)	Present for items 1-15
Nadia Ladak	Anaesthetist (paediatric)	Present for items 1-15
Sarah Markham	Lay member	Present for items 1-15
Fiona Murphy	Surgeon (paediatric)	Present for items 1-15
Kelly Nwankiti	Nurse (blood products)	Present for items 1-8, 10-15
Antony Palmer	Surgeon (orthopaedic)	Present for items 1-15
Akshay Shah	Anaesthetist (adults)	Present for items 1-15
Marisa Taylor-Clarke	Surgeon (obstetrics)	Present for items 1-15
Laura Warner	Surgeon (ENT)	Present for items 1-15

**In attendance NICE:**

Alexandra Bonnon	Health Economist	Present for items 1-15
Matthew Bosworth	Technical Analyst (observing)	Present for items 1-15
Danielle Conroy	Project Manager	Present for items 1-15
Farah Farzana	GP Speciality Registrar (observing)	Present for items 7-15
Benjamin Gregory	Business Analyst, Resource Impact	Present for items 1-15
Nicola Greenway	Measurement Lead, Quality Standards (observing)	Present for items 1-15
Cheryl Hookway	Implementation Support Manager	Present for items 1-15
Sophia Kemmis-Betty	Health Economics Advisor	Present for items 1-15
Kathryn McVicar	Specialty Registrar in Public Health (observing)	Present for items 1-8, 10-15
Clifford Middleton	Topic Lead	Present for items 1-15

Joanna Perkin	Senior Guidance Content Designer	Present for items 1-15
Magdalena Watras	Pharmacist Clinical Adviser	Present for items 6-15
George Wood	Senior Technical Analyst	Present for items 1-15

### Apologies:

Mark Hills	Operating Department Practitioner, committee
Jenny Jendrick	Information Specialist, NICE
Sandip Nandhra	Surgeon (vascular), committee
Felicity Platt	Anaesthetist (adults), committee
Louise Strickland	Nurse (perioperative), committee

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and apologies

The Chair (IB) welcomed the committee members and NICE attendees to the 2<sup>nd</sup> committee meeting for the Blood transfusion: tranexamic acid update.

IB informed attendees that apologies had been received as noted above and welcomed Fiona Murphy, Paediatric Surgeon as the newest member of the committee.

The minutes from committee meeting 1 were checked and agreed to be an accurate record.

## 2. Declaration of interests

IB asked all committee members to verbally declare any new interests.

No new interests were declared but IB reminded the group of the following recorded interest which is relevant to the day's discussion:

Name	Job title, organisation	Declarations of Interest, date declared	Type of interest	Decision taken
Akshay Shah	Committee member – anaesthetist (adults)	Safety and efficacy of tranexamic acid in major non-cardiac vascular surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis.  Atha K, Corrigan L, Bera K, Shah A <a href="http://doi.org/10.54522/jvsgbi.2024.141">http://doi.org/10.54522/jvsgbi.2024.141</a>	Specific, Direct -non-financial professional and personal	Declare and partial exclusion  Participate in discussion but withdraw for drafting recommendations in relation to vascular surgery.

Akshay Shah (AS) was an author on a paper, which was not included in the evidence

base, but does express a clear opinion on a matter under consideration, safety of tranexamic acid in vascular surgery. It was agreed that the member could stay for the discussion of the evidence but would be excluded from participating when any recommendations specifically relating to vascular surgery were being made.

### **3. Implementation and update on NHS England tranexamic acid proposal**

The Chair introduced Cheryl Hookway (CH), Implementation Support Manager who introduced the NICE implementation team and advised the committee on what they should bear in mind whilst drafting recommendations before a deeper discussion later in the agenda.

The Chair and Clifford Middleton (CM), Topic Lead, provided the committee with an update from their meeting with NHS England about their proposal on the use of tranexamic acid. They explained the relevance and impact of this on the work of the committee and confirmed the outcome.

### **4. Summary of clinical evidence:**

- **Effectiveness of TXA**
- **Safety of TXA**

The Chair introduced George Wood (GW), Senior Technical Analyst who presented an overview of the clinical evidence for the safety of tranexamic acid and the effectiveness of tranexamic acid for people with minor anticipated blood loss which was presented in detail at the last meeting.

The committee had the opportunity to discuss what was presented and ask questions.

### **5. Summary of economic evidence:**

- **Cost-effectiveness of TXA**

The Chair introduced Alexandra Bonnon (AB), Health Economist who provided an overview of the cost-effectiveness evidence for the use of tranexamic acid in low-risk bleed surgeries which was presented in detail at the last meeting.

The committee had the opportunity to discuss what was presented and ask questions.

### **6. Equality and Health Inequalities Assessment**

GW opened a discussion with the committee on the important matter of health equality and inequality issues, highlighting those captured so far and asking them to consider if there were any missing which also needed to be included.

After a productive discussion IB thanked the committee for their input.

### **7. Committee discussion and recommendation drafting**

Led by GW, the committee started to discuss the evidence in it's entirety, including the key findings, if this reflected what is usually seen in clinical practice, how much

confidence they had in the data included in the review and the key findings of the economic analysis.

#### **8. Committee discussion and recommendation drafting**

Group discussion continued after a short break.

The committee offered their input and answered questions from the NICE team.

#### **9. Implementation support**

CH provided an overview on the teams at NICE who work with the NHS, patients and carers, healthcare professionals and organisations to help put our guidance into practice.

The group discussed any specific implementation challenges or support needs which may be required to implement the new recommendations in this area.

CH asked for committee volunteers to continue this work outside of the meeting to assist with system engagement.

IB thanked CH for her input.

#### **10. TXA licensing and dosing**

The Chair introduced Magdalena Watras (MW), Pharmacist Clinical Adviser who presented the current MHRA licence and dosing recommendations for tranexamic acid in the UK.

The group discussed the Summary of Product Characteristics of the drug, indications for intravenous and oral TXA and off label use. This included debate on whether the use of TXA to limit minor blood loss would be considered outside of the licence.

IB thanked MW and committee for their input.

#### **11. Guideline wording refresh**

The Chair introduced Joanna Perkin (JP), Senior Guidance Content Designer who explained the role of the NICE editorial team and provided guidance on best practice when formulating recommendations. It was explained what content from the original guideline could be refreshed in this update and what was out of remit.

IB thanked JP for her input.

#### **12. Committee discussion and recommendation drafting**

Taking into consideration what they had heard from the NICE team the Committee started to formulate suitable recommendations based on the evidence presented and their expertise.

<b>13. Committee discussion and recommendation drafting</b>
Continuation of the item above after a short break.
<b>14. Committee discussion and recommendation drafting</b>
<p>Taking input from the committee to craft the initial wording, the NICE team were able to draft recommendations for the use of tranexamic acid that would be taken away for further edits. This included recommendations for research in this area.</p> <p>AS did not participate in any recommendation drafting relating to vascular surgery due to a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Any relevant health equality and inequality issues were also noted.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the committee for their input and the team for their work in preparing for the day's discussions.</p>
<b>15. Next steps and AOB</b>
<p>IB summarised the main actions from the day and outlined next steps.</p> <p>IB asked for items of any other business. As there was no further business to discuss, IB brought the meeting to a close.</p>

**Date of next meeting:** 13 January 2026

**Location of next meeting:** Virtual