

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE SAFETY OF BLOOD, TISSUES AND ORGANS (SaBTO)

Biographies of SaBTO members

Professor James Neuberger



Chair

Prof James Neuberger qualified from Oxford and did general medical training in London and Leeds. After 10 years at the Liver Unit, Kings College Hospital London, he moved to Birmingham as a Consultant Physician in the Liver Unit, where he continues to work in clinical liver disease and transplantation. He was then Associate Medical Director in Organ Donation and Transplantation from 2008 until 2016. Prof Neuberger has published extensively on aspects of liver disease and transplantation. He has been an editor of Transplantation and Associate Editor for the Journal of Hepatology.

Dr Su Brailsford

Consultant in Epidemiology and Health Protection

Su was appointed to the post of Consultant in Epidemiology and Health Protection at NHS Blood and Transplant following Public Health training in London. She has an honorary appointment at Public Health England (PHE) where she leads the joint NHSBT/PHE Epidemiology Unit which runs several surveillance programs providing data on infections in donors and recipients. Su is also part of the NHSBT Microbiology Services clinical team. She is member of the Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) steering group and the UK blood services JPAC Standing Advisory Committee on Care and Selection of Donors.

Dr Chris Callaghan



Transplant physician

Chris is a consultant transplant surgeon at Guy's Hospital, London, and is also a member of the transplant teams at Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Evelina London Children's Hospital. Chris is the NHS Blood and Transplant national clinical lead for abdominal organ utilisation and is a council member of the British Transplantation Society. He has clinical and research interests in the use of higher risk deceased donor organs, and in the use of warm machine perfusion in organ transplantation.

Dr Akila Chandrasekar



Tissue Transplant

Dr Akila Chandrasekar is a Consultant in Transfusion Medicine in NHS Blood and Transplant. She is a member of UK Blood Transfusion Service (UKBTS) Joint Professional Advisory Committee (JPAC) and is the chair of JPAC Specialist Advisory Committee on Tissues and Cellular Therapy Products (SAC TCTP). She is on the NHSBT Public Health England Epidemiology steering group.

Dr Paul De Sousa



Regenerative medicine specialist

Paul is a Reader in the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences at the University of Edinburgh where his research concerns innovating applications and safety of human pluripotent stem cells use to treat neurodegenerative disease and ageing. He co-founded and served as CSO and regulatory licence holder for the advanced cell therapy manufacturing company, Roslin Cells Ltd (2006-18), specialising in human embryo stem cell production. He is also co-founder and serves as non-executive director of its spin-out company, CENSO Biotechnologies Ltd (2016-present), producing and using person-specific induced pluripotent stem cells for discovery and drug development.

Dr Effrossyni Gkrania-Klotsas

Microbiologist

Dr Effrossyni Gkrania-Klotsas is an Infectious Diseases Consultant at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Trust. She is a former member of the Advisory Committee for Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP). Her clinical and research interests include infections in primary and secondary immunodeficiency and transplantation, emerging infectious diseases and hospital infections epidemiology.

Andrea Harris



Nurse

Andrea is a senior nurse in Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services in NHS Blood and Transplant. She previously sat on the British Society for Haematology (BSH) Transfusion Task Force and was involved in various guideline writing groups. She is currently Honorary Secretary for the British Blood Transfusion Society (BBTS).

Dr Rachel Hilton



Nephrologist

Rachel's current positions include: Consultant Nephrologist at Guys and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust; member of Guy's & St Thomas' Organ Donation Committee; member of the NHSBT Kidney Advisory Group; member of the Department of Health Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs (SaBTO); Honorary Treasurer of the British Transplantation Society. Dr Hilton's previous positions include: chair of the Clinical Trials Committee of the British Transplantation Society; chair of the Transplantation Clinical Study Group of the UK Kidney Research Consortium; member of the British Transplantation Society Ethics Committee; member of the Guy's and St Thomas' Clinical Ethics Advisory Group.

Her clinical and research interests include kidney transplantation, living kidney donation, viral infection in transplant recipients, kidney disease in patients with HIV and ethical concerns related to transplantation.

Professor Will Irving



Virology

Will is Professor and Honorary Consultant in Virology at the University of Nottingham and Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. His major research interests are in the field of viral hepatitis, particularly hepatitis C virus, wherein he has published extensively. He has served as Member (1998-2009), then Chair (2009-2014) of the Department of Health Expert Advisory Group on Hepatitis, and as a member of the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (2003-2012). Currently he chairs the National Strategy Group for Viral Hepatitis, and co-chairs HCV Research UK, a national resource comprising a cohort of 12,000 patients with database and biorepository.

Professor Richard Knight



Prion disease specialist

Richard is a part-time Professorial Fellow in the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences, University of Edinburgh, and an Honorary Consultant Clinical Neurologist, Lothian University Hospitals Trust. He continues as one of the Neurologists attached to the National CJD Research and Surveillance Unit, where he has worked since 1996 and was Director from 2005-07 and again from 2009-2017. His main research interests have been in the clinical features, diagnosis and epidemiology of human Prion diseases. He is the current Chair of the UK CJD Support Network Management Committee and a Friend and Advisor to the CJD International Support Alliance.

Dr Lynn Manson



Haematologist

Lynn is a Consultant Haematologist for the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and is based in the regional clinical transfusion medicine centre in Edinburgh. She is SNBTS lead for therapeutic apheresis and has been a stem cell collection facility inspector for JACIE since 2010. She also acts as a Human Tissue Authority Independent Assessor for the RIE living organ transplantation team.

Professor James Mason



Health economist

James is a Professor of Health Economics within Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick. Interests are wide-ranging including economic analysis within clinical trials, economic models, cost-effectiveness of implementation, trial design, systematic review, epidemiological enquiry and evidence-based medicine.

Professor Alison Murdoch



IVF/fertility/stem cell specialist

Professor Alison Murdoch is Professor of Reproductive Medicine, Consultant Gynaecologist and former Head of Newcastle Fertility Centre at Life (Newcastle Hospitals NHS Trust). She is a previous Chair of the British Fertility Society and past member of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics. She was a member of the UK Stem Cell Forum that advised on the procurement and derivation of embryonic stem cells for therapeutic use. She was a member of the Newcastle team that developed mitochondrial transfer techniques to reduce the risk of transmission of abnormal mitochondria.

Professor Michael Murphy



Haematologist

Mike is Professor of Transfusion Medicine at the University of Oxford and Consultant Haematologist for NHS Blood & Transplant and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He qualified in medicine at St.Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, University of London, where he completed his training in haematology and became a Senior Lecturer in Haematology. In 1996, he moved to Oxford.

In 2001, he established the National Blood Transfusion Committee, and served as its Secretary until 2015. He co-founded the NHSBT Clinical Studies Unit, its Systematic Reviews Initiative for transfusion medicine and the Transfusion Evidence Library (www.transfusionevidencelibrary.com). His work using technology to improve transfusion practice has won numerous national awards and is an exemplar for the NHS Quality, Innovation, Prevention and Productivity (QIPP) initiative.

Professor Murphy chaired the UK National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guideline on

transfusion published in November 2015. He is current Chair of the international BEST Research Collaborative and President-elect of the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) (to be President in October 2018).

James Powell



Solid Organ Transplant

Mr James Powell is a Consultant Transplant Surgeon and Clinical Director of the Transplant Centre at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and an Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh. He specialises in liver, renal and pancreas transplantation. Currently he attends the NHSBT Liver Advisory Group as a representative of the Scottish Liver Transplant Unit and is a member of the NHSBT Liver Advisory Core Working Group. Previously he sat on the Scottish National HepatoPancreaticoBiliary Network Board.

Professor Peter Simmonds



Microbiologist

Peter Simmonds qualified in Medicine at the University of Southampton and subsequently completed his College Clinical Virology training in 1995 while employed as a clinical lecturer at the University of Edinburgh. He was appointed Professor of Virology in 2001 and has pursued a combined academic and clinical career in the area of virus pathogenesis, epidemiology and evolution and in virus diagnostic developments, emerging viruses and most recently developing the use of next generation sequencing methods in virus diagnostics. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses and a member of the UK Panel for elimination of Polio, Rubella and Measles.

Dr Stephen Thomas



Blood Service Manager

Steve is the Assistant Director for Manufacturing Development at NHS Blood and Transplant, responsible for leading the development of the manufacturing service, which includes the processing, testing and issue of blood components. Steve's background is in laboratory science, completing his PhD at the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control. He joined NHSBT in 2005 as the manager of the Component Development Laboratory, holding this post for six years. From 2011-13 Steve was seconded to the NHSBT post of Safety Programme Coordinator, which included a scientific role on the SaBTO Secretariat within the Department of Health, alongside supporting the Clinical Governance function of NHSBT. He is a member of the UK Blood Services / MHRA Standing Advisory Committee on Blood Components, has been a member of SaBTO since 2014, and was awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists in 2017.