JURISDICTIONAL BLOOD COMMITTEE (JBC)

STRATEGIC PLAN

For the period

2013 – 2015

Approved by the Hospitals Principal Committee on 8 April 2013

Foreword

* The National Blood Agreement (2003) established a coordinated national approach to policy setting, governance and management for the Australian blood sector. This national approach features a primary policy setting and governance role for Commonwealth, State and Territory Health Ministers, supported by a Jurisdictional Blood Committee (JBC) of senior officials.
* Under the Agreement, the JBC has a mandate to provide advice on blood-related issues to Health Ministers and to take on specific roles in relation to safety and quality in the Australian Blood Sector. JBC reports to Ministers through the Australian Health Ministers’ Advisory Council (AHMAC) and the Hospitals Principal Committee (HPC). The National Blood Authority manages the national blood supply and acts on behalf of JBC in organising activities to support the Australian blood sector.
* The 2009 Webster review of administrative arrangements recommended a stronger, more cohesive and integrated approach to strategic policy. In response to the Webster review, JBC and the NBA committed to jointly develop a three year strategic plan on key blood policy issues. The plan would define future directions, including:
* core elements to be addressed as part of the JBC work program;
* linkages that need to be made with the wider sector and actions required to build these links; and
* processes for monitoring and reviewing progress against the plan.
* This Strategic Plan for 2013-15 has been prepared by the JBC. Its purpose is to provide strategic direction to the JBC and inform relevant work plans, including jurisdictional plans and the NBA Corporate Plan / Operational Plan for the next 3 years. It articulates how JBC will continue to work with the NBA to fulfil its roles of high level policy and governance and oversight of blood supply arrangements in the following areas: supply planning and risk management, safe and appropriate use, data and sector information and financial sustainability.

*Monitoring and reporting arrangements*

* The JBC Secretariat will coordinate an exception report on progress against the JBC Strategic Plan on an annual basis[[1]](#footnote-1). The exception report will identify those projects that have deviated from the original business case or project description with regard to project scope, cost and timeframes. The report will also make recommendations about addressing the identified exceptions.

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**Standing Council on Health**

**Australian Health Ministers’  
Advisory Council**

**AHMAC Hospitals Principal Committee**

**Jurisdictional Blood Committee**

**National Blood Authority**

**NBA Board**

**Commonwealth**

**Minister for Health and Ageing**

**Governance overview of the blood sector**

# JBC’s Vision and Mission

**Vision:**

**An effective, coordinated, national approach to Australia’s blood supply.**

**Mission:**

**To offer strategic advice to governments on blood sector policies and activities to support a high quality sustainable blood supply.**

# Goals and Strategic Priorities

**2. Support a national information management and data analysis capability that drives performance improvement in the Australian blood sector.**

**Goals:**

**1. Provide a safe, secure and affordable supply of blood and blood-related products and services to ensure access best meets clinical need in Australia.**

**4. Develop policy and provide policy advice on the sustainability of the blood sector in Australia, including financial sustainability.**

**3. Promote a best practice model of management and use of blood and blood related products and services in Australia.**

**4. Develop policy and provide policy advice on the sustainability of the blood sector in Australia, including financial sustainability.**

**2. Support a national information management and data analysis capability that drives performance improvement in the Australian blood sector.**

1.1 Improve patient safety, supply security and efficiency through optimising inventory levels of all blood products and minimising wastage within the system.

4.2 Provide advice on improving value for money for governments under the Deed of Agreement with the Blood Service, including strategies to address risks for governments and the Blood Service.

3.3 Support appropriate use of blood and blood products through encouraging and promoting the integration of Patient Blood Management (PBM) programs in health care provider systems.

3.4 Ensure that nationally consistent and effective clinical governance and authorisation arrangements are in place for high cost blood products.

4.1 Ensure reliable, consistent and well-informed decision-making about risks and proposals to address these risks in the blood sector.

2.1 Support the development and implementation of national systems for data collection.

3.6 Build and promote sharing of knowledge and identify and promote best practice in clinical governance and practice.

4.3 Guide long-term policy and planning priorities, including in the broader context of health reform.

3.7 Improve private sector engagement to promote a better understanding of blood issues, including capacity for more efficient and appropriate use.

3.2 Identify opportunities to support implementation of the NSQHS Blood Standard.

3.1 Advocate management of blood and blood products in accordance with the National Stewardship Expectations for the Supply of Blood and Blood Products.

3.5 Provide advice to Health Ministers on proposed benchmarks and national performance measures for appropriate use of blood and blood products.

**Goals**

**Strategic Priorities**

1.2 Ensure patient access to blood products which reflect best clinical practice through clarifying and strengthening the process for evidence based evaluation of funding proposals for new products and services under the National Blood Agreement.

2.2 Improve our evidence base to better understand blood and blood product management and use and identify opportunities for improvement.

**1. Provide a safe, secure and affordable supply of blood and blood-related products and services to ensure access best meets clinical need in Australia.**

**3. Promote a best practice model of management and use of blood and blood related products and services in Australia.**

# Strategic Priorities and Key Milestones

| Goal 1 - Provide a safe, secure and affordable supply of blood and blood-related products and services to ensure access best meets clinical need in Australia | | | | | |
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| **Strategic Priority** | **Description of activities** | **2012-13** | **2013-14** | **2014-15** | **Responsibilities and Key milestones** |
| 1.1 Improve patient safety, supply security and efficiency through optimising inventory levels of all blood products and minimising wastage within the system. | Arrange for evidence-based National Inventory Management templates/guidelines to be prepared on safe and efficient inventory management for AHP blood stocks. |  |  |  | * JBC to consider the National Inventory Management framework developed by the NBA, in consultation with the Blood Service, by June 2014. * NBA to provide regular updates on progress with the development of the National Inventory Framework at JBC meetings * JBC to oversight implementation of the agreed National Inventory Framework |
| Oversee the development, implementation and review of product discards and wastage and develop wastage benchmarks for consideration by Health Ministers. |  |  |  | * Commonwealth and NBA to develop performance benchmarks, commencing with shadow benchmarks in 2013/14, for blood and blood product use and wastage based on data analysis for consideration by JBC in December 2012. * JBC to progress a paper to SCoH together with 2013-14 National Supply Plan and Budget and agreed shadow benchmarks. * NBA to routinely monitor and report wastage levels to JBC including comparative data aggregated to jurisdictional level from 2013-14. |
| 1.2 Ensure patient access to blood products which reflect best clinical practice through clarifying and strengthening the process for evidence based evaluation of funding proposals for new products and services under the National Blood Agreement. | Arrange for development of assessment principles and guidelines for assessing Schedule 4 Funding Proposals. |  |  |  | * The Commonwealth working with the NBA to develop assessment principles and guidelines, including target timeframes, for JBC consideration by December 2014 |
| Assess and advise on Schedule 4 proposals including the current backlog |  |  |  | * JBC to consider SCIg assessment by first quarter 2013. * Where requested by JBC, the Commonwealth to refer Schedule 4 proposals to Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) for further evaluation and advice. |

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| Goal 2 - Drive performance improvement in the Australian blood sector through a national information management and data analysis capability | | | | | |
| **Strategic Priority** | **Description of activities** | **2012-13** | **2013-14** | **2014-15** | **Responsibilities and Key milestones** |
| 2.1 Support the development and implementation of national systems for data collection. | Advocate and support provision of data by public and private sectors through BloodNet and other national systems. Consider the need to extend development of data collection capability on non-fresh blood products including Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIg). Continue to support exploration of Laboratory Information System (LIS) interfaces to BloodNet. |  |  |  | * JBC to actively promote BloodNet implementation in all jurisdictions and consider regular reports from the NBA on progress * JBC to consider a proposal from the NBA on the scope of a national haemovigilance data system by 30 June 2013. |
| 2.2 Improve our evidence base to better understand blood and blood product management and use and identify opportunities for improvement. | Support finalisation of a national data strategy for the blood sector as the basis for ongoing data analysis and feedback to JBC. Review the National Information and Data Strategy for approval. Facilitate development of governance arrangements for analysis and publication of data. |  |  |  | * JBC to consider a National Blood Data and Information Strategy developed by the NBA by December 2012. * JBC to consider a National Blood Data and Information Governance Framework developed by the NBA by 30 June 2013. |

| Goal 3 - Promote a best practice model of management and use of blood and blood related products and services in Australia. | | | | | |
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| **Strategic Priority** | **Description of activities** | **2012-13** | **2013-14** | **2014-15** | **Responsibilities and Key milestones** |
| 3.1 Advocate management of blood and blood products in accordance with the National Stewardship Expectations for the Supply of Blood and Blood Products. | Arrange for the integration of the Stewardship Statement into materials, programs and policies at a national and jurisdictional level. Raise awareness of the Stewardship Statement across public and private health care providers. Identify any barriers or perverse incentives to behaviours which underpin the Stewardship Statement. |  |  |  | * JBC to advise on opportunities for the integration of the Stewardship Statement into materials, programs and policies at a national and jurisdictional level and consider relevant proposals from NBA. * Commonwealth to review MBS item for transfusion and, in consultation with relevant jurisdictions, provide advice to JBC by June 2013 |
| 3.2 Identify opportunities to support implementation of the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Blood Standard. | Facilitate development of tools and strategies to assist Approved Health Providers (AHPs) to implement the NSQHS Blood Standard. |  |  |  | * JBC to consider NBA proposals for tools and strategies to assist AHPs to implement the Blood Standard. |
| 3.3 Support appropriate use of blood and blood products through encouraging and promoting the integration of Patient Blood Management (PBM) programs in health care provider systems. | Continue to support the development of Patient Blood Management guidelines and identify opportunities to support their dissemination and uptake. |  |  |  | * JBC to monitor the development of agreed PBM guidelines by NBA. * JBC to consider NBA proposals for implementation and dissemination of the PBM guidelines |
| Consider the elements of a proposed national PBM program and provide advice to AHMAC through the HPC. Facilitate implementation of any agreed elements. |  |  |  | * JBC to initiate agreed projects that support a national PBM program. |
| 3.4 Ensure that nationally consistent and effective clinical governance and authorisation arrangements are in place for high cost blood products. | Provide advice to Health Ministers on the recommendations of the Review of Authorisation and Clinical Governance Framework for Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIg). Facilitate implementation of those recommendations agreed by Health Ministers. |  |  |  | * JBC advice to SCoH on recommendations by first quarter 2013. * Agreed recommendations of the review are to be implemented from early 2014 |
| 3.5 Provide advice to Health Ministers on proposed benchmarks and national performance measures for appropriate use of blood and blood products. | Endorse agreed benchmarks and national performance measures on appropriate use, which leverage information already collected or available, for referral to Health Ministers. |  |  |  | * JBC to consider proposals from JBC about potential measures by December 2013. |
| 3.6 Build and promote sharing of knowledge and identify and promote best practice in clinical governance and practice. | Support the development of blood-related education materials for the health workforce and promote their national uptake and evaluation. |  |  |  | * BloodSafe e-learning Australia program is to develop a further three modules. * JBC to oversight the evaluation of the effectiveness of the BloodSafe e-learning program by September 2015. * JBC to provide advice to the NBA about the development of further guidelines. |
| Monitor, and report on, implementation of the revised Criteria for Clinical Use of IVIg. |  |  |  | * NBA to publish and disseminate new Criteria. * JBC to monitor IVIg usage reports and provide advice on any significant variation to estimated demand to AHPC. |
| 3.7 Improve private sector engagement to promote a better understanding of blood issues, including capacity for more efficient and appropriate use, in particular within the context of the broader health system. | Support the development of a Private Sector Engagement Framework and facilitate private sector interest. |  |  |  | * JBC to consider NBA proposals to engage private sector hospitals and laboratories as part of the implementation of the *Statement on National Stewardship Expectations for the Supply of Blood and Blood Products*) |

| Goal 4 - Develop policy and provide policy advice on the sustainability of the blood sector in Australia, including financial sustainability. | | | | | |
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| **Strategic Priority** | **Description of activities** | **2012-13** | **2013-14** | **2014-15** | **Responsibilities and Key milestones** |
| 4.1 Ensure reliable, consistent and well-informed decision-making about risks and proposals to address these risks in the blood sector. | Explore the feasibility of a national integrated risk management framework for the sector |  |  |  | * The Commonwealth to undertake a preliminary analysis of the work required to identify risk management priorities from “vein to vein” and report back to JBC. * JBC to consider the policy principles to underpin systemic risk management priorities. |
| 4.2 Provide advice on improving value for money for governments under the Deed of Agreement with the Blood Service, including strategies to address risks for governments and the Blood Service. | Oversee continued refinements to the Output Based Funding Model (OBFM) arrangements to get better value for money for governments.  Provide direction to the NBA in negotiating any new or amended principles to underpin a new Agreement commencing 2014-15 and opportunities for improving arrangements for roll overs of the current Deed. |  |  |  | * The NBA to negotiate revised OBFM principles with the Blood Service by December 2012. * NBA to advise JBC on any proposed new OBFM arrangements for 2013-14 to 2015-16 within requested timeframe. |
| Arrange for, and participate in a review of the National Managed Fund (NMF) and statutory defence legislation. Develop advice for consideration of Health Ministers. |  |  |  | * NBA to conduct review of the NMF and statutory defence legislation to be completed by December 2013. * JBC to provide the outcomes of the review and advice to SCoH by first half of 2014. |
| 4.3 Guide long-term policy and planning priorities, including in the broader context of health reform. | Hold periodic stakeholder forums to discuss strategic blood policy matters.  Blood Policy Forums and commissioned research to guide the development of a strategic policy and research agenda for the blood sector. |  |  |  | * The Blood Policy Forum Advisory Committee to organise periodic Blood Policy Forums. * JBC to consider identified national research priorities developed by the NBA by June 2013 |
| Advice and report on the feasibility of integrating blood into health reform and opportunities to strengthen the evidence base for blood use and costs. |  |  |  | * The Commonwealth working with the NBA to liaise with health reform bodies about the possible integration of blood into health reform based on sufficient evidence. |

1. Subject to AHMAC/HPC agreement, this report may be considered to be the JBC Annual Report for the purposes of the National Blood Agreement (refer Section 12 (c)) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)