



Australian Blood Sector

Overview of Entities

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**Government
of South Australia**

SA Health

Australian Blood Sector – Overview of Entities

The following organisational structure governs blood component use in South Australia:

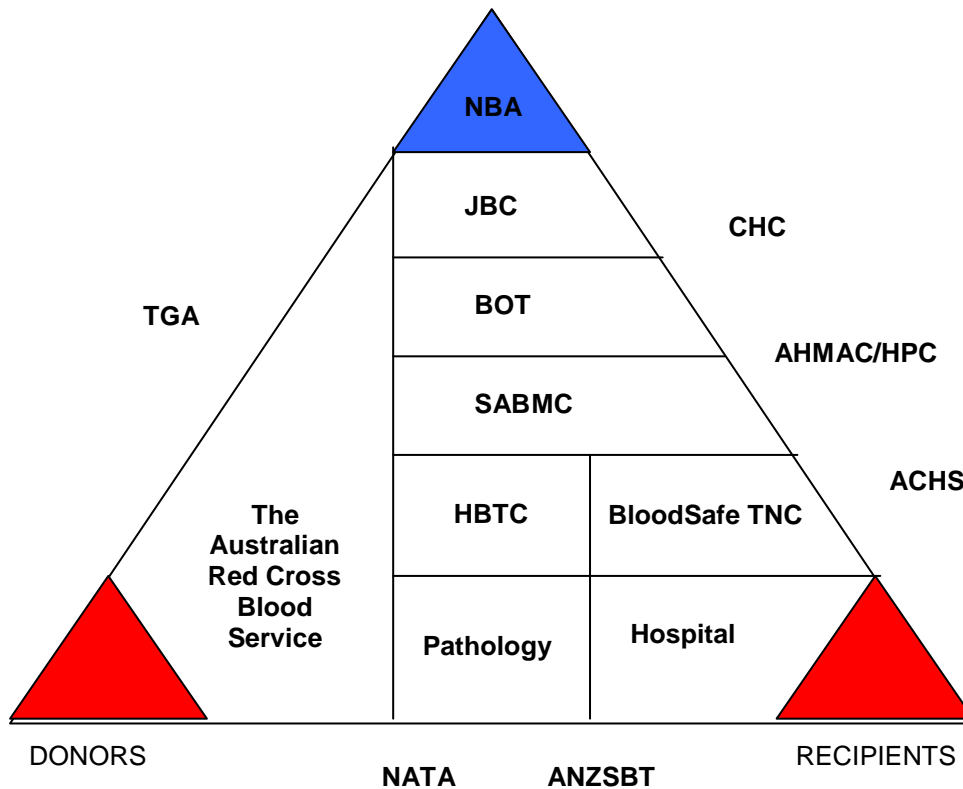


Figure 1: Overview of Blood Product Management Relations in SA (adapted from the Tasmanian Blood Memorandum of Understanding 2007)

Blood Organ & Tissue Programs (BOT) in the Department for Health and Ageing is responsible for coordination of the supply planning process for blood and blood products for SA. BOT also oversees state-wide policy development relating to the utilisation of these products through the SA Blood Management Council (SABMC), and provides input to national policy developments through membership of the Jurisdictional Blood Committee (JBC). BOT, through SABMC, has oversight of clinical governance arrangements for blood product use via specialist clinical user groups and auspices the **BloodSafe Program**. BOT also manages the South Australian Government's 37% contribution to blood and blood products used by the South Australian public and private health sectors.

South Australian Blood Management Council (SABMC) ensures appropriate clinical management and safe, cost-effective use of blood and blood products and emergency management preparedness within the South Australian public and private health sectors, in accordance with National Health and Medical Research Council clinical guidelines, the National Blood Agreement and the National Blood Contingency Plan. SABMC has clinical oversight of specialist clinical user groups involved in the use of fresh, plasma-derived and recombinant products.

Hospital Blood Transfusion Committees (HBTC) are responsible for reviewing transfusion practice at the hospital level, including developing, implementing and reviewing hospital procedures relating to transfusion and ensuring compliance with state-wide policy and existing national professional and regulatory guidelines, reviewing the arrangements for transfusion training of staff, reviewing adverse transfusion events and reviewing the appropriateness of blood component transfusion.

BloodSafe Transfusion Nurse Consultants (TNC) are responsible for ensuring a strategic approach to best practice through the BloodSafe Collaborative. On a local level, TNCs are responsible for implementing the recommendations of the Hospital Transfusion Committees, undertaking clinical audits, following up transfusion related adverse events and near misses (including specimen labelling) as part of risk mitigation processes. TNCs provide education and interventions, as required, to ensure high standards of transfusion practice are maintained.

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service (the Blood Service) is generally responsible for the delivery of products to interim inventory holders such as transfusion services. The Blood Service is not responsible for the provision of a state-wide transport system to facilitate the transfer of blood products between hospitals. Inter-facility transfers occur on an ad hoc basis as part of pathology service provision, often only when product is required to meet demand.

The **Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)** is responsible for regulating blood, blood components and plasma derivatives under the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989* and as such is the direct regulator of the ARCBS.

The **National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA)** is responsible for accrediting the transfusion service laboratories in hospitals and pathology services.

The **Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion (ANZSBT)** comprises members from diverse scientific, technical and medical backgrounds working within the areas of Blood Transfusion and Transfusion Medicine within Australia and New Zealand. The broad aims of the ANZSBT are:

- The advancement of knowledge in blood transfusion and transfusion medicine
- The promotion of improved standards in the practice of blood transfusion
- The collaboration with international and other regional societies interested in blood
- The promotion of interest in research into blood transfusion and allied subjects
- The formulation of guidelines in key areas of transfusion practice.

The **Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS)** is an independent, not-for-profit organisation responsible for accrediting the majority of healthcare organisations in Australia.

The **Council of Australian Governments Health Council (CHC)** comprises all Australian Government, State, Territory and New Zealand Ministers with direct responsibility for health matters, including the Australian Government's Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Its main role and objectives are to:

- Provide a forum for Australian Government, State and Territory Governments and the Government of New Zealand to discuss matters of mutual interest concerning health

- policy, health services and programs;
- Promote a consistent and coordinated national approach to health policy development and implementation; and
- Consider matters reported to the Council by the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council.

The **Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council (AHMAC)** comprises the Head (plus one other senior officer) of each of the Australian Government, State and Territory and New Zealand Health Authorities, and the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs. Its charter is to provide effective and efficient support to the CHC by:

- Advising on strategic issues relating to the coordination of health services across the nation and, as applicable, with New Zealand; and
- Operating as a national forum for planning, information sharing and innovation.

The **Hospitals Principal Committee (HPC)** is a subcommittee of AHMAC. The Jurisdictional Blood Committee (JBC) reports to AHMAC via the HPC. HPC considers and provides advice to AHMAC as appropriate on:

- All activities which largely relate to hospital care including emergency departments, outpatient care, inpatient care and alternatives to hospital care;
- Implementation of the health reform agenda as it applies to hospital care;
- Clinical, technical and medico-ethical developments;
- The appropriateness, likely impact, policy implications, effectiveness and safety of clinical and technical developments.

The **Jurisdictional Blood Committee (JBC)** is the conduit between governments and the National Blood Authority (NBA). It represents the Australian, state and territory governments' positions on blood policy, demand, supply planning and product distribution, funding and evidence-based approaches to emerging products, services and technologies. It also oversees the National Blood Authority's (NBA) role in blood supply contracting and provides advice and support to the CHC through the HPC and AHMAC.

The **National Blood Authority (NBA)** is a statutory agency within the Australian Government Health portfolio that manages and coordinates arrangements for the supply of blood and blood products and services on behalf of the Australian Government and state and territory governments.