



# Australian Blood Sector

*Overview of Entities – SA and Australia*

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## Australian Blood Sector – Overview of Entities

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

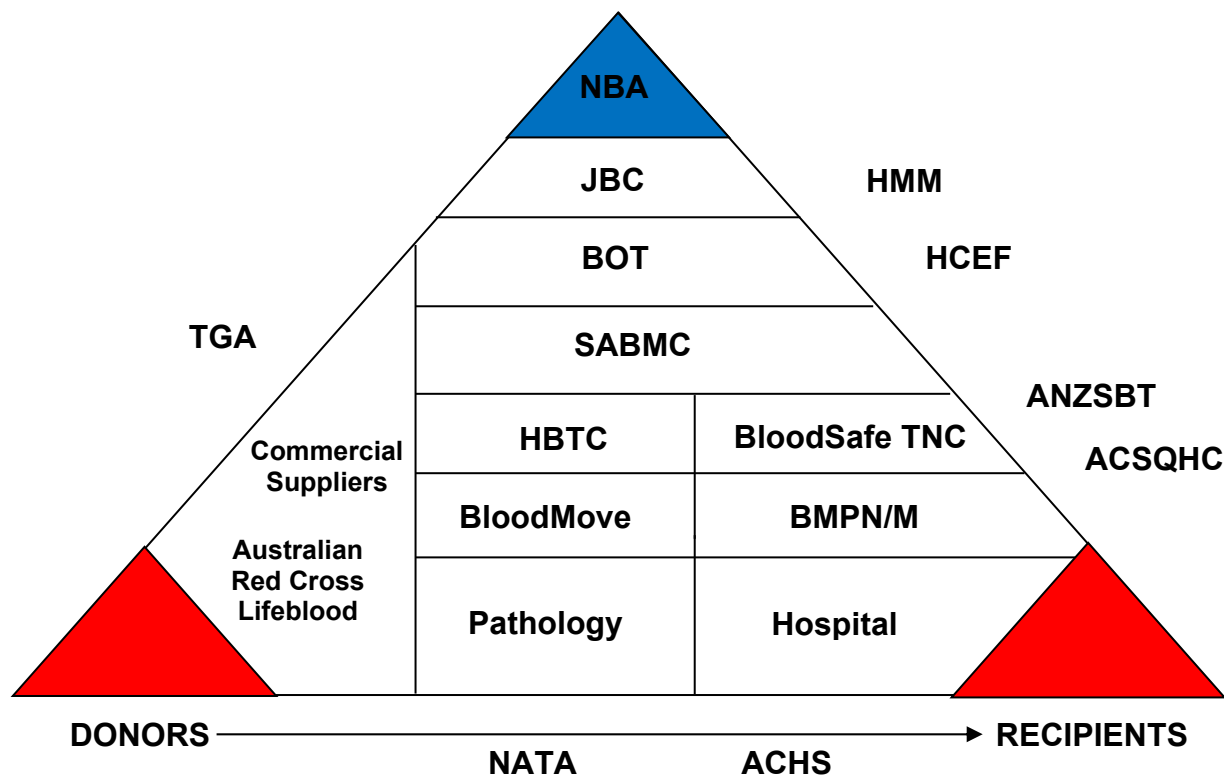


Figure 1: Overview of Blood Product Management Relations in SA

**Blood Organ & Tissue Programs (BOT)** in the Department for Health and Wellbeing 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 and BloodMove Programs**. BOT also manages the South Australian Government's 37% funding contribution to blood and blood products used by the South Australian public and private health sectors.

**South Australian Blood Management Council (SABMC)** advises on 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 and Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care clinical guidelines and standards, 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. This includes ensuring that the hospital is compliant with the [national blood stewardship obligations](#).

**BloodSafe Transfusion Nurse Consultants (TNC)** are responsible for ensuring a strategic approach to best practice through the BloodSafe Collaborative. On a local level, TNCs support the implementation of 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.

**Blood Management Portfolio Nurses/Midwives (BMPN/M)** operate as a vital link in the multidisciplinary chain to support patient safety and improved outcomes in transfusion practice and patient blood management (PBM). The BMPN/M is responsible for championing PBM processes and the safe transport, storage, use and administration of blood products within their local area/ ward.

**BloodMove** is a state-based program that has as its aims to establish safe and effective blood inventory management systems, reduction of blood wastage and to ensure effective supply and use of emergency blood in regional centres. The BloodMove team assist sites to manage blood related issues, including conducting audits and assessing inventories in hospitals within their regional area. The project leads for the program are responsible for ensuring that systems are in place between sites, and the public and private sectors, to ensure blood and blood products near expiry can be moved to the site most likely to utilise them, thus minimising wastage on a statewide level.

**Australian Red Cross Lifeblood (Lifeblood)** is generally responsible for the delivery of products to interim inventory holders such as transfusion services. Lifeblood 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.

**Commercial Suppliers** are companies contracted by the National Blood Authority to supply non-fresh blood products to the Australian Market, such as immunoglobulins, clotting factors and recombinants. These goods are subject to approval by the Therapeutic Goods Administration and must be included on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods for supply in Australia.

The **Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)** is responsible for regulating blood, blood components and plasma derivatives under the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*. The TGA is the direct regulator of Lifeblood and is the approval body for commercial suppliers to list their products on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods for supply in Australia.

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

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 **Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion (ANZSBT)** comprises members from diverse nursing, 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 Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)** is a corporate Commonwealth entity and part of the Health portfolio of the Australian Government. It is responsible for the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards, including the Blood Management Standard.

The **Health Ministers' Meeting (HMM)** comprises all Australian Government, State and Territory Ministers with direct responsibility for health matters. Its main role is to progress health issues of national importance which require cross-border collaboration.

The **Health Chief Executives Forum (HCEF)** supports the HMM. The HCEF is an intergovernmental forum for joint decision-making and strategic policy discussions that helps to efficiently deliver health services in Australia. It is made up of the health department chief executive officer from each state and territory and the Australian Government.

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 role in blood supply contracting and reports through HCEF to Health Ministers.

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.

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#### For more information:

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