

TRANSFORMING TRANSFUSION SAFETY



A Collaborative, System-Wide Approach to Implementing SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards 2025 and Why It Matters.

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INTRODUCTION

SHOT Standards introduced in July 2025 following the recommendations from the Infected Blood Inquiry and Lord Darzi's Review. These were produced in response to rising transfusion-related harm. 8 Standards with variable sub standards.

AIM

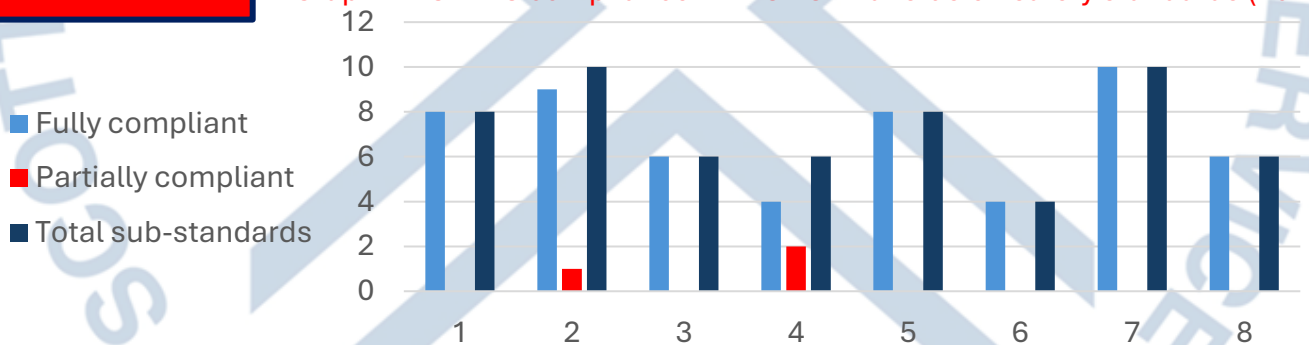
To promote change by reducing avoidable risk, standardising practice, strengthening governance and improving staff wellbeing.

METHODS

- Multidisciplinary Short Life Working Group (SLWG) within SNBTS involving transfusion, governance, regulation, workforce and education leads
- Utilising the gap analysis process embedded within SNBTS robust Quality Management System
- Assessment using SHOT Baseline Tool across the 8 standards
- Evidence gathered from policies, SOPs, quality systems, local improvement initiatives and stakeholder engagement
- Collaborative approach with shared ownership and co-production of solutions throughout

RESULTS

Graph 1 – SNBTS compliance with SHOT transfusion safety standards (2025)



- 6 of 8 standards fully compliant with 3 sub standards partially compliant
- 2 partially compliant standards supported by targeted improvement plan and 1 partially compliant standard required a coordinated national approach & long-term transformational change.

Additional gains:

- Stronger laboratory governance
- Centralised repository for policies, guidance, and wellbeing resources
- External links and self-help information
- Reusable evidence templates and framework for Health Boards

CONCLUSIONS

- Compliance activity acted as a catalyst for system-wide improvement
- Accelerated learning and reduced risk
- Stronger governance, transparency, and readiness for change
- Workforce united by commitment to patient safety, better outcomes and wellbeing
- Provides a scalable, transferable model to support implementation of SHOT Transfusion Safety Standards across NHS Scotland

REFERENCES

1. Serious Hazards of Transfusion (SHOT) Transfusion Safety Standards 2025: <https://www.shotuk.org/resources/shot-transfusion-safety-standards-relevant-resources/>
2. Infected Blood Inquiry (IBI): <https://www.infectedbloodinquiry.org.uk/>