

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON BLOOD
TRANSFUSION**

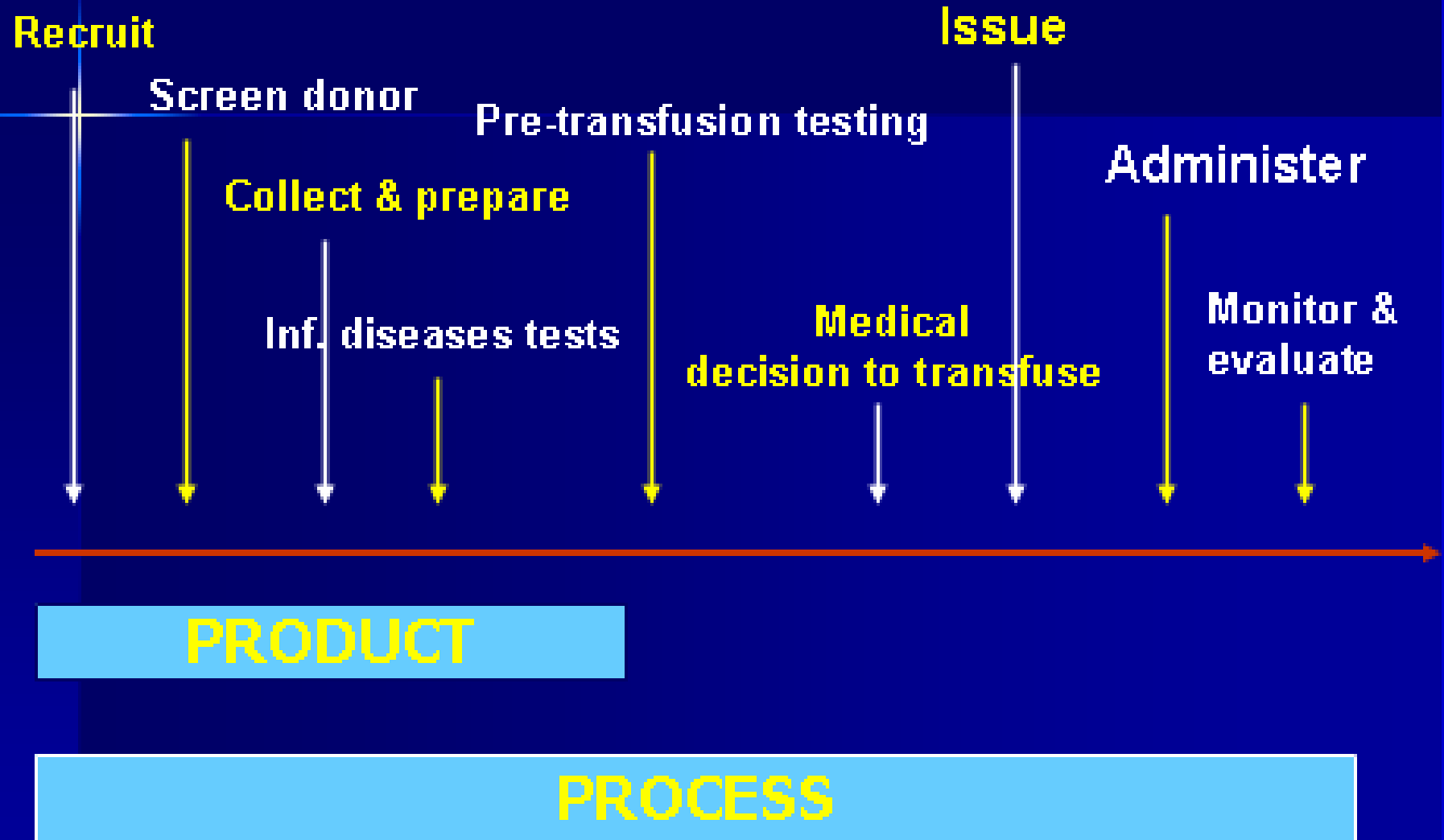
PARTICIPANTS

- **Dr. Gerald Sandler**
- **Dr. Jessie Githanga – Kenya**
- **Dr. Vincent Myweve – Director, Blood Bank – Southern Zone**
- **Dr. Abdul Juma – Western Zone**
- **Dr. Simon Andrews Dielly – Southern Highlands**
- **Dr. Sanobar Khan**
- **Ms. Kendra Ford**
- **Dr. Prasanna N Kumar**

OBJECTIVES OF THE TEAM

- **Transfusion services – collection of blood and manufacture of components**
- **Blood Services – matching donated blood to specific patients**

SAFE TRANSFUSION THERAPY – VEIN TO VEIN SEQUENCE OF EVENTS



Ministry of Health

- Operates (6) Zonal Transfusion Services
- Sets standards for blood collections
- National blood policy
- Employs the only physicians dedicated to transfusion services
- Partners with external agencies

ROLE OF CDC/ AABB/ PEPFAR

- Strengthen infrastructure
- Strengthen operational activities
- Strengthen equipment
- Improve transfusion services and define ordering practices

ROLE OF THE INCTR

- Identify unfulfilled needs in Transfusion Services and Hospitals
- Support the Ministry of Health's advocacy to approach the public and encourage voluntary blood donation at the Zonal Blood Transfusion centres of the NBTS
- Assist in planning for sustainability of programmes
- Partner with other agencies in the region involved in improvement of BTS.

PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED

- Inadequate storage facilities – domestic refrigerators
- Inappropriate use of blood and blood components
- Inadequate distribution of blood to “hard-to-reach” areas – vehicles
- Lack of educational material for updating staff

RECOMENDATIONS

PREAMBLE

The committee recognizes the significant progress and success of the MOH and its partners [PEPFAR, CDC, AABB, Govt. of Norway] in establishing a NTBS in Tanzania.

PREAMBLE

- **The long term success of the NTBS will require hospital leadership to support the concept of centralization of transfusion services**
- **Advocate voluntary donations at the Zonal Transfusion centres**
- **Phase out blood collections in hospitals as early as possible**

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

1.VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

- **Limitations of present partners**
- **Vehicles for the zonal transfusion centres to send blood to “hard-to-reach” areas**
- **Need for appropriate blood bank refrigerators for storage of blood**

SPECIFIC RECOMENDATIONS

2. ADVOCACY OF VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION

- **Retention of repeat, safe donors – foundation for expanding the voluntary blood programme**

3. EDUCATION & TRAINING

- **Continuing medical and technical education**
- **for technologists and physicians at the blood centres**
- **Education on appropriate use of blood**

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- **QC for all stages of collection, testing & processing of blood.**
- **Participation of Zonal Transfusion centres in Quality Assurance programmes**

5. TRANSFUSION COMMITTEE

- **Participate in Hospitals' Committees**

HOSPITAL SERVICES

- **Hospital leadership should support the NBTS and phase out their blood collections**
- **Transfusion Committee – Auditing blood utilization**
- **Inventory management – adequate onsite inventory for blood & blood products**
- **Continued support for educational programmes**