

## Project 'Elevator Pitch'

Transfusion Science is a specialism of Biomedical Science involving diagnostic testing and the provision of suitable blood products for transfusion. The provision of incorrect blood products can be potentially fatal for the patient. The most recent 2020 annual SHOT report shows that 20% of the total errors reported originated from the Transfusion Laboratory.

These errors contributed towards two patient deaths and five major morbidities. Virtual reality (VR) technology is becoming widely used to improve training in healthcare. We are looking to develop a VR training package for crossmatching. This is where the patient's sample is tested against an appropriately selected unit of blood to determine if it is compatible for transfusion. As the scientists performing this test do not come into contact with patients, it is really important that this training helps them to understand the impact of transfusion for the patient receiving the blood.

We are looking for volunteers who would like to volunteer to attend the **new Barnsley NHSBT centre on Thursday 11/08/22 at 10am-2pm** for a demonstration of the potential VR technology and to provide feedback. There will also be an opportunity for the volunteers to try out an example VR package, although this is not a mandatory requirement. Volunteers will be given a short tour of the onsite transfusion laboratory where scientists perform the testing of patient samples before transfusion.

**We would like to obtain the valuable insight of volunteers who have received blood transfusions, or who are donors, and are therefore impacted by the crossmatching process. Volunteers would also need to be available in October 2022 to provide feedback on the prototype VR package developed.**

**Travel costs will be covered, and a lunch will be provided.**



Patient and Public  
Advisory Group