



ATMF recent developments, achievements, and challenges related to Transfusion Medicine in the Arab region

OUTLINE

- 1. About ATMF : Mission /Objectives / history**
- 2. 2024 report ATMF 15th Annual Meeting in Egypt**
- 3. Recommendations**
- 4. Futur vision**

Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum

is a professional, non-political and not for profit scientific
organization

MISSION

The ATMF's mission is to promote the highest ethical and professional standards in blood transfusion practices in order to sustain a safe, evidence-based and cost-effective blood transfusion practices in Arab countries.



**Membership
Geographic Reach**

**Knowledge
Exchange**

**Collaboration
Global reach**

OBJECTIVES

**ATMF aims to improve blood transfusion
practices and patient care in the Arab region**

Raising ATMF Profile

Communication and Awareness

**Professional
Development**

ATMF BRIEF HISTORY

The main and basic starting activity consisted of a series of annual structured courses for scientific and clinical practitioners on subjects important for blood transfusion medicine covering the chain from donor to recipient.

The activities extended to cover **specific projects and survey studies** on important regional topics including donor care, quality management , screening and testing, component production, haemovigilance etc.

Initially, ATMF had a special link and support with the **ISBT** where the first 7 courses were supported jointly through local fund raising efforts and supplemented by contributions from the ISBT Education Committee and later on from The ISBT Foundation and Academy .

later ATMF extended its links to the **national blood transfusion societies** in the region, the **WHO-EMRO** office, the **AABT of the League of Arab Nations**, and recently the **International Plasma and Fractionation Association (IPFA)**.

Over the last years, **15 structured courses and meeting** were conducted and hosted by a number of Arab countries .



Course/Meeting	Hosting Country	Date
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 1	<i>Egypt</i>	May 2005
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 2	Tunisia	December 2005
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 3	Kingdom Saudia Arabia	December 2006
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 4	United Arab Emirates	December 2007
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 5	Syria	November 2008
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 6	A session during ISBT Egypt	March 2009
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 7	Algeria	December 2009
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 8	<i>Egypt</i>	December 2010
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 9	Qatar	December 2011
Arab Transfusion Medicine course 10	Kuwait	December 2012
Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum 11	Morocco	November 2014
Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum 12	<i>Egypt</i>	December 2015
Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum 13	Tunisia	April 2018
Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum 14 Virtual	<i>Egypt</i>	Decembre 2022
Arab Transfusion Medicine Forum 15	<i>Egypt</i>	January 2024

ATMF 15th 2024 REPORT

- 3 Themes developed both by ISBT/ATMF speakers on

Transfusion research

Massive haemorrhage

Feto-maternal immunology

- ATMF speakers presented the results of three surveys that were conducted ahead of the meeting among the transfusion professionals in our region

Transfusion research survey

Massive transfusion management, analysis of regional status

Feto-maternal immunology survey

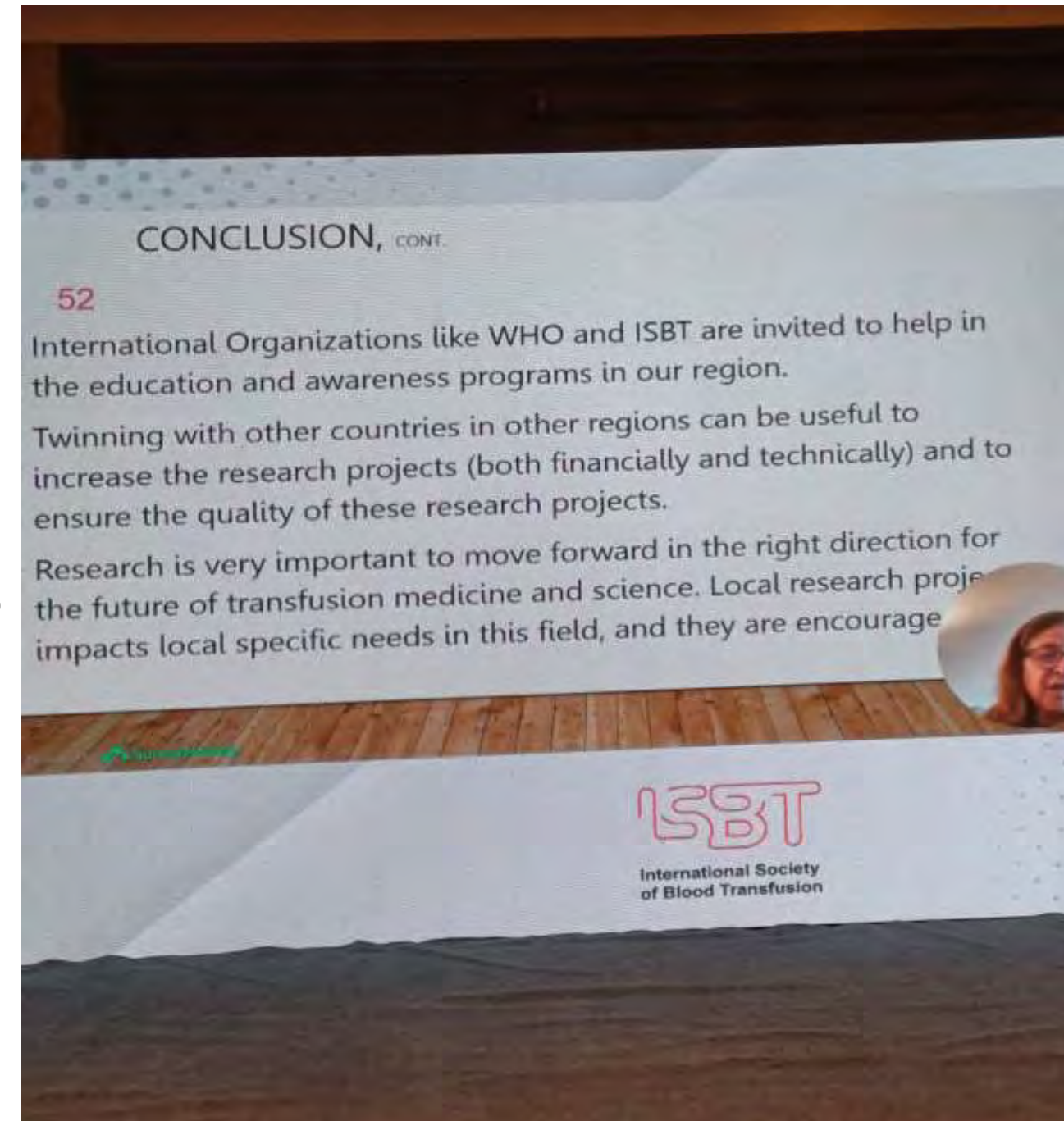


FINDING

These results allowed us to have a clearer vision of the 3 topics in the EMR countries and provided a guide on the measures to be follow in the future.

Transfusion Research Survey

- **Enhancement of research in transfusion medicine field**
- **The survey shows an interest to improve this area**
- **A budget is needed from the region's health authorities**
- **International organisations such as WHO and ISBT are invited to be involved through education and awareness programs in the region**



Massive Transfusion Management

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Vox Sanguinis  International Society of Blood Transfusion

Management of massive haemorrhage in transfusion medicine services in the Middle East and North Africa

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- There is a **lack of consensus** on the definition of **adult and paediatric massive transfusion**, content of massive transfusion packs, the use of adjunctive agents and laboratory monitoring in the Middle East and North Africa.
- There are **several challenges in the implementation** of massive transfusion **protocols** and their application in paediatric patients.
- There is **call for harmonized definition**, consensus protocols/guidelines and continued education for healthcare providers involved in **massive haemorrhage management**.

Feto-maternal Immunology Survey

Survey conclusion and future work

Conclusion

- Variable and limited responses to the survey
- Variable and inadequate knowledge of regulatory aspect of maternal immunohematology testing among participants
- Variability between and across Arab countries in testing methods and transfusion and anti-D prophylaxis

Future work

- There is a need for more studies
- There is a need to develop a regional guidelines and policy for MIT and preventive strategies
- There is a need to develop a registry for alloimmunised women
- More collaboration is needed between Arab Counties on this topic





**Pannel discussion
&
recommmandations**

Recommendations

- **ATMF15 days were marked by very active panel discussion sessions between ISBT experts, ATMF speakers, EMR experts and the attendees, where specific questions have been discussed and answered such as:**
- **How to move forward with transfusion research in Arab region**
- **Working towards regional guidelines on management of massive haemorrhage .**
- **How to improve regional management of feto-maternal immune interactions?**
- **The surveys showed up their results which came up with excellent recommendations and provided the framework on to direct innovation policies in the future for the Arab region.**

National guidelines can be more useful and they have to be **more realistic** to the national situation

As we don't have enough **research foundation** in the region the most effective approach to develop guidelines is **to involve stakeholders in the process** with a full engagement to ensure that clinicians will follow the guidelines and ensure good results.

Application of guidelines needs **involvement of regulations and authorities.**

ATMF is a very good platform to develop and share guidelines.

haemovigilance program and Hospital transfusion committees implementation should be effective and functioning.
we should always **consider regional variation.**

Impact & Future Direction

- **ATMF's meetings and scientific activities provided a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and networking among transfusion medicine professionals from the Arab region and internationally.**
- **Such a framework will conduct us to direct innovation policies in the future for a safe and sufficient blood in the Arab region with the support of the Arab Authority of Blood Transfusion Services .**

Invitation to join ATMF Community



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It was a pleasure meeting you all in ATMF15- ISBT Highlight Day in Cairo.

This year's meeting had the honor of... see more



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Promoting the highest ethical and professional standards in blood transfusion in Arab countries.

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