Tour de Table

The Netherlands

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Sanquin

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November 2020

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Developments and impact of COVID-19

Assignment of Ministry to Sanquin to collect convalescent plasma and produce a hyperimmune product (COVIG)

- Convalescent plasma collection started in May 2020
- Aim: 30.000 kg, 9500 kg collected in November 2020
- National clinical study on use of convalescent plasma in COVID patents
- **Compassionate use** of convalescent plasma
- First batch of COVIG produced

Impact of COVID-19:

- Reduced capacity due to social distancing
- Peak of new donor registrations
- Red cell and platelet demand declined during lockdown in March and April
- Less apheresis plasma collected

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Testing

After first WNV case in a bird in September 2020, a serological study among blood donors was started.

Selected WNV RNA testing in blood donors started in October 2020 after first human cases.

COVID-19 antibody screening in blood donors resulted in the first prevalence data of the pandemic in The Netherlands. Measurements were repeated over time and are ongoing to monitor population-based immunity.

Sanquin provides SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing capacity and multiple SARS-CoV-2 tests (serology- and CRISPR-based) were developed

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Clinical studies

A clinical trial, non-inferiority study, with cost effectiveness analysis in Dutch hospitals is in preparation which will compare trombocyte concentrates from 3 buffycoats with the current product prepared from 5 buffycoats.

First results on new deferral policy based on ferritin levels published in Transfusion

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7496980/

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New partnership on plasma fractionation

Sanquin entered a new partnership with a consortium of investors that will acquire a majority stake in the Dutch company Sanquin Plasma Products (SPP) and the Belgian company Plasma Industries Belgium (PIBe). Sanquin will hold a priority share with a casting vote on corporate governance issues with an impact on the supply of plasma-derived medicines to the Dutch market. The Minister has to approve of the new plasma supply agreement.