

## Speaker Bios

### **Kathleen McShane, MLT, ART** “Pretransfusion Testing: How quickly can we get blood?”

Kathleen McShane is the Transfusion Safety Officer (TSO) at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Kathleen is also the SickKids Patient Blood Management Coordinator participating in Ontario’s blood conservation initiative with the ONTraC program. She is a member of the Education Committee for the Ontario Transfusion Transmitted Injuries Surveillance System (TTISS-ON) and the Regional Advisory Committee- Central Region for ORBCoN (Ontario Regional Blood Coordinating Network).

### **Allison Collins, MD** “Transfusion Guidelines: Less is Best”

Dr. Collins obtained her MD at Queen’s University and completed her Internal Medicine internship and General Pathology residency there. After five years as an Associate Laboratory Physician at North York General Hospital, she worked at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre for 23 years, where she was the Medical Lead in the Clinical Laboratories, and Chair of the Transfusion Committee. She is also the Laboratory Medical Director at the Northumberland Hills Hospital in Cobourg.

In November 2013, she joined the Ontario Regional Blood Coordinating Network (ORBCoN) as the Physician Clinical Projects Coordinator. She chairs the Ontario Contingency Planning Committee for Blood Shortages and serves on other provincial committees related to transfusion medicine.

### **Gail Murray, RN** “Best Practices: Hemoglobin Optimization”

Gail Murray is a registered nurse at Peterborough Regional Health Centre since 1974. Gail is currently working for the ONTraC Program of Patient Blood Management from St. Michael’s hospital in Toronto for the last six years.

### **Kelly Syer, RN** “Administration Process: Informed Consent, Patient Preparation & Administration Procedures”

Kelly Syer has been a registered nurse for 15 years, specializing in critical care and oncology. Kelly is the Transfusion Safety Nurse (TSN) for Lakeridge Health, a position she has held for three years. Her role involves working on blood administration policies, audits, and investigating transfusion reactions. She is also a member of the Education Committee for the Ontario Transfusion Transmitted Injuries Surveillance System (TTISS-ON).

### **Donna Berta, RN** “Recognition, Management and Prevention of Transfusion Reactions & Errors”

Donna Berta is the Transfusion Safety Nurse for London Health Sciences and affiliated London hospitals since May 2016. Her previous nursing experiences include perioperative patient blood management, preadmission clinics, community health, obstetrical nursing and critical care nursing. She is also a member of the Education Committee for the Ontario Transfusion Transmitted Injuries Surveillance System (TTISS-ON).