

MEDIA RELEASE

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Blood workshops a hit in the west

Staff from Toowoomba Hospital and Pathology Queensland recently presented blood and blood products workshops in Roma and Charleville for the first time.

Blood transfusion nurse Susan Kay said the enthusiasm for the workshops was outstanding.

“We have run numerous workshops in Toowoomba and the South Burnett over the past year so it was great to be able to take the show on the road and present at Roma and Charleville,” Ms Kay said.

“We did a three hour workshop at Roma on 31 July, and we were joined there by guest presenter Jess Hall, who is a local pharmacist, and this was followed by the Charleville workshop on 1 August, with local pharmacist Mitchell Rigby.”

Ms Kay and Neil Dawson, supervising scientist at the Pathology Queensland laboratory at Toowoomba Hospital, covered a range of topics during the workshops.

“We spoke on the latest advances in blood and blood product usage, alternatives to blood transfusions, iron infusions, laboratory essentials including the correct labelling of specimens, and haematology.

“We also talked about how to recognise and handle adverse transfusion reactions, about how precious a resource blood is, and the importance of how to be very prudent in its use.

“Both workshops were very well attended and in addition to the local nursing, pharmacy and medical staff who came along it was wonderful to also see some nurses from as far away as St George, Dirranbandi and Quilpie coming to join us.”

Ends

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