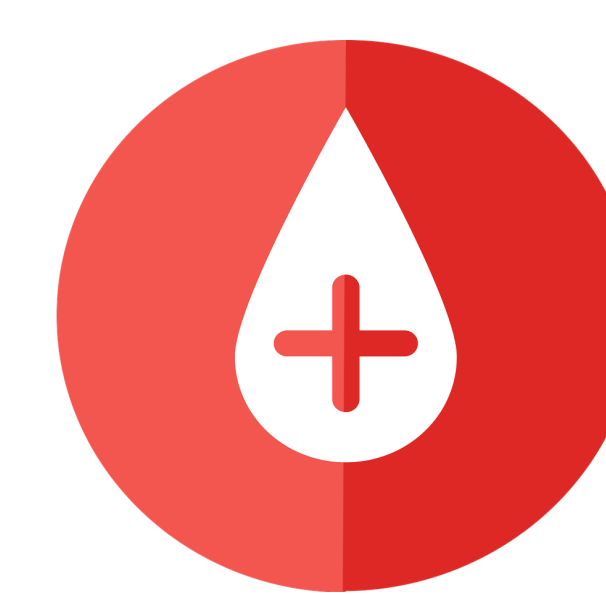


The development, commissioning and aims of the Haematology and Transfusion Scotland (HaTS) National Managed Diagnostic Network



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Aims

Around 70% of clinical decisions are under-pinned by diagnostic testing¹, therefore a streamlined more efficient and effective diagnostic service aids prevention and anticipation of a patient's condition, ensuring where possible the best treatment reducing the risk of re-admission to hospital. The service can ensure it provides the highest quality and safety, under increasing requirements and financial constraints but reducing unnecessary testing. The network will develop guidance to ensure the right test is carried out, for the right patient and at the right time. Additionally the network enables the profession to assess and address for work force planning.

Methods

A short life working group was created to develop the formal application for the network and to achieve designation. As depicted below, the network would enable a clinical lead and laboratory manager from every NHS Board in Scotland, to feed into the steering group.

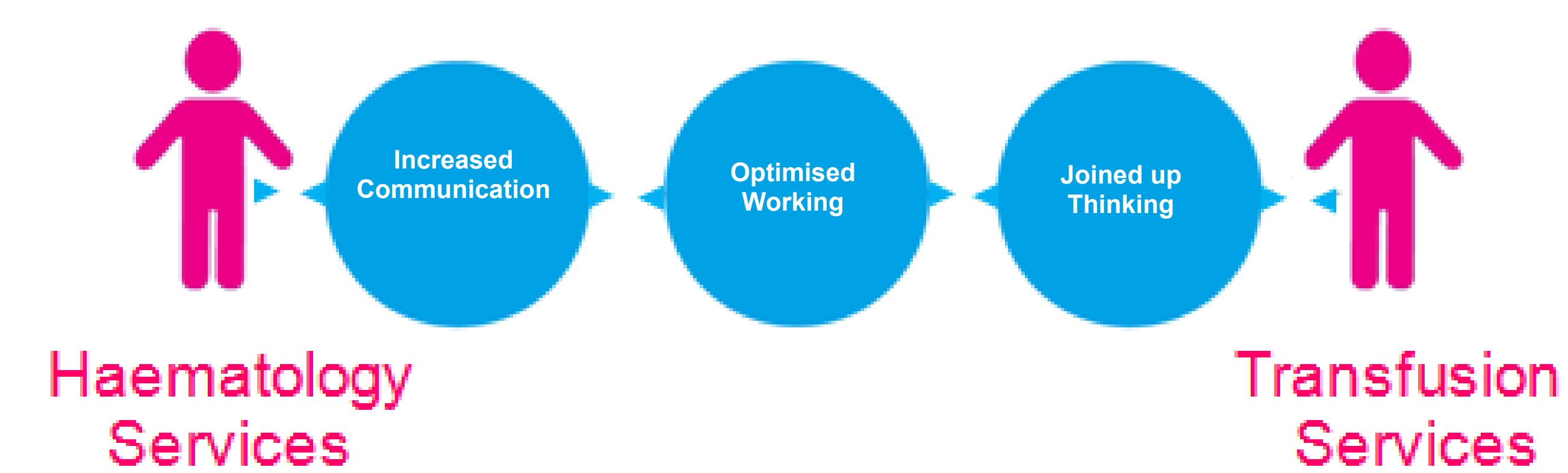


Fig .1. Working together with Haematology and Transfusion Services

Outcomes / results

The network has successfully been designated. The promotion of the network is beneficial to raise the profile of the network and to encourage more stakeholders to engage. The short life working group has developed guidance documents on testing of B12, Ferritin and Folate for clinical and medical settings.

PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR HAEMATOLOGY AND TRANSFUSION SCOTLAND (HaTS)

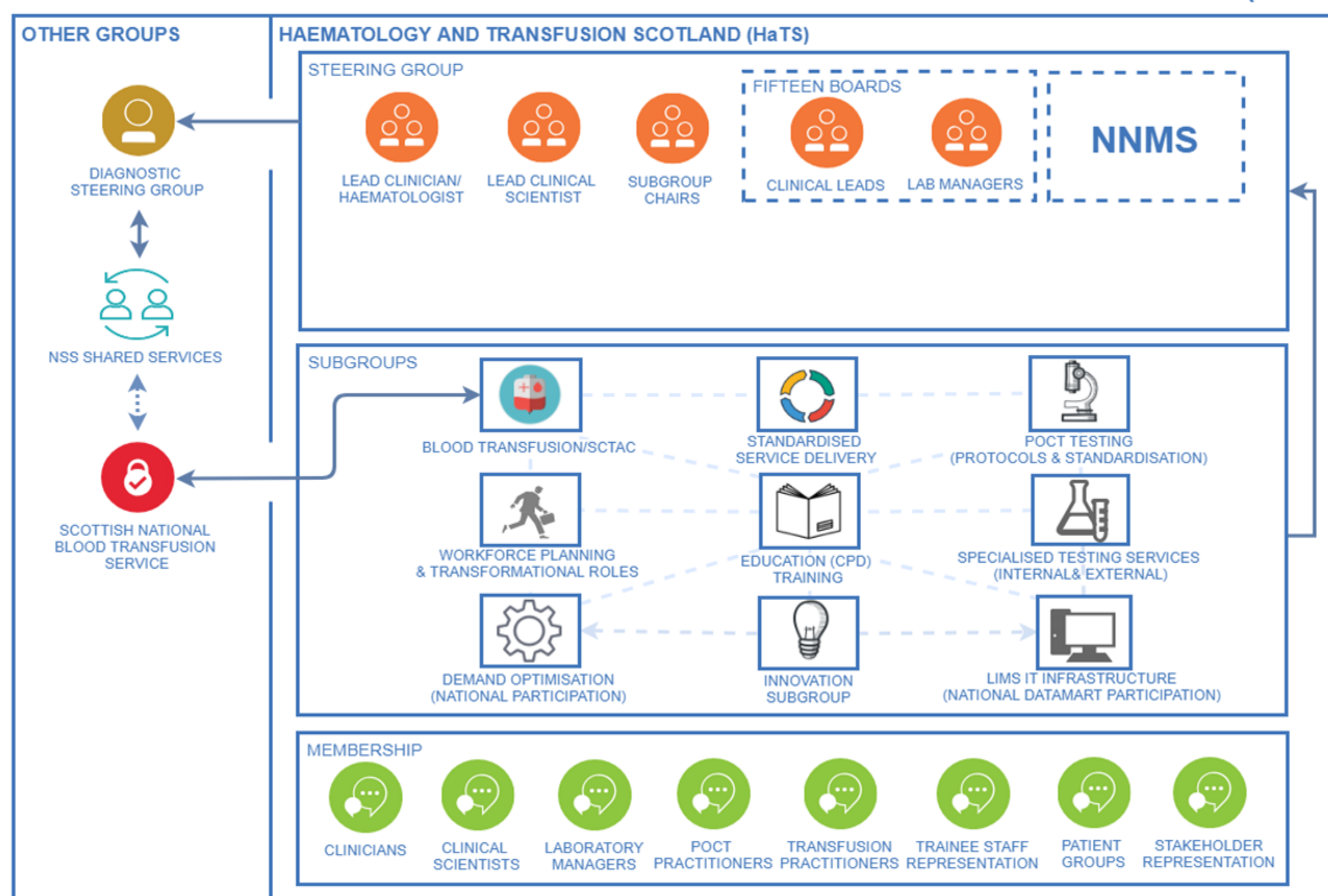


Fig .2. Proposed structure for the HaTS Network

Conclusions

It was recognised that the commissioned network; Haematology and Transfusion Scotland (HaTS), would create a formally recognised expert group to facilitate collaboration between laboratories within haematology and transfusion services and foster and develop links between the areas. It would additionally provide a professional voice to enable the discipline to engage effectively with on-going national initiatives such as:

- the distributed services model¹ including NLIIP (the national data mart)
- the national demand optimisation group², including the Atlas of Variation
- the 2020 vision³ and supporting Realistic Medicine⁴
- the National Delivery Plan for healthcare science⁵
- the Diagnostic Steering Group
- leading discussions with UKAS, MHRA and HTA around Scottish blood banks

The network will enable service redesign, improvement of care pathways, streamlining processes, reduce unwarranted variation, optimise practise and adapt service process to meet evolving needs on the NHS.

References

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