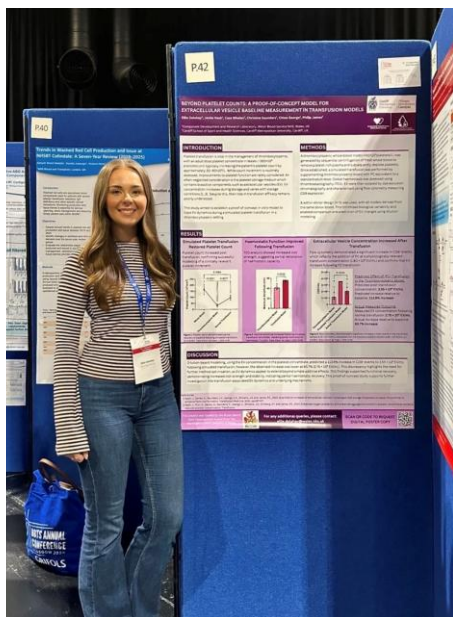


BRYAN MARSH GOLD DEVELOPMENT JOINT AWARD WINNER 2025/2026 ELLIE DELAHAY BSC(HONS) MSC



An update and thank you from Ellie

I wanted to write to thank you once again for awarding me the **Bryan Marsh Gold Development Award 2025** and to provide an update on the outcomes that have arisen from the funding you kindly provided.

The award enabled me to undertake a small pilot study as Principal Investigator, which was my first opportunity to lead a research project independently. This experience was invaluable in developing my research skills, from study design and project management through to data analysis and dissemination.

The findings from the pilot study were developed into an abstract (attached), which has been accepted for publication in *Transfusion* as part of the British Blood Transfusion Society (BBTS) 2026 Conference proceedings. I will send on the link once this has been published. The abstract was also accepted for presentation as a poster (attached) at the **BBTS Annual Conference 2026**, held in Glasgow last week, where I had the opportunity to present my work to colleagues and experts from across the international transfusion medicine community. I have also attached a photograph of me presenting from the conference.

Furthermore, the pilot study, amongst my other workings, enabled me to win a bursary from BBTS to attend the conference, providing a valuable opportunity to network, share this research and learn from others working within transfusion science and related fields.

Perhaps most importantly, the award has significantly contributed to my development as an early-career researcher in Wales. The experience and outputs generated from this project have helped me build the foundations for the next stage of my career. I am delighted to share that I have now accepted a place on a prestigious PhD at the University of Aberdeen, in collaboration with the University of Oxford and the industry partner Vesiculab. During my doctoral studies, I will continue my research interest in extracellular vesicles (EV), whilst expanding into a more translational and cardiovascular-focused area of research.

As this is my last week working at the Welsh Blood Service I will no longer have access to this email address. For all future communications could you please contact me on my personal email e.delahay@sky.com, alternatively I am in the ACC group on WhatsApp.

This opportunity would not have been possible without the initial support provided by the Livery through the Bryan Marsh Gold Development Award. The funding enabled me to take a significant first step as an independent researcher, and I am extremely grateful to the Livery for investing in my development at this early stage of my career.

Please feel free to share the attached poster and conference photograph within the Livery, including in newsletters, reports, social media, websites or other communications relating to the Bryan Marsh Gold Development Award and its impact. As the abstract has been accepted for publication but has not yet been formally published, I kindly ask that it is not circulated at this stage. I would be delighted for my experience and the poster presentation to be used as an

example of how the award supports the development of early-career researchers, and I am happy for these materials to be shared for this purpose.

Thank you again for your support. I hope the attached materials demonstrate the positive impact that the award has had, and I look forward to updating you on my future progress.

Kind regards,
Ellie Delahay



Gwasanaeth Gwaed
Cymru
Welsh Blood Service



Ellie Delahay
BSc (hons), MSc

Ymarferydd Cydweithredol | Datblygu Cydrannau
ac Ymchwil
Associate Practitioner | Component Development
& Research

+44 (0)1443 622157
[**Ellie.delahay@wales.nhs.uk**](mailto:Ellie.delahay@wales.nhs.uk)

BEYOND PLATELET COUNTS: A PROOF-OF-CONCEPT MODEL FOR EXTRACELLULAR VESICLE BASELINE MEASUREMENT IN TRANSFUSION MODELS Ellie Delahay, Jamie Nash, Cass Whelan, Christine Saunders, Chloe George, Philip James 1 1 2 1 1 2 Component Development and Research Laboratory, Welsh Blood Service NHS, Wales, UK 1 Cardiff School of Sport and Health Sciences, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff, UK

Hyperlink below to access the full article

[P042 BBTS 2026 Poster Beyond Platelet Counts EV.pdf](#)

BBTS Abstract 2026 Category 2: Components, Donation Testing and Safety, Tissues, Cells and Cellular Therapies Beyond Platelet Counts: Establishing an Extracellular Vesicle Baseline in Simulated Transfusion Models Ellie Delahay¹, Jamie Nash¹, , Cass Whelan², Christine Saunders¹, Chloe George¹, Philip James² ¹Component Development and Research Laboratory, Welsh Blood Service NHS, Wales, UK ²Cardiff School of Sport and Health Sciences, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff, UK.

Hyperlink below to access the full article

[Beyond Platelet Counts - EV Modelling Abstract.pdf](#)