

Sexual behaviours and the blood donor: do selection criteria matter?

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Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

NHS

Blood and Transplant

The UK Donor Survey Steering Group



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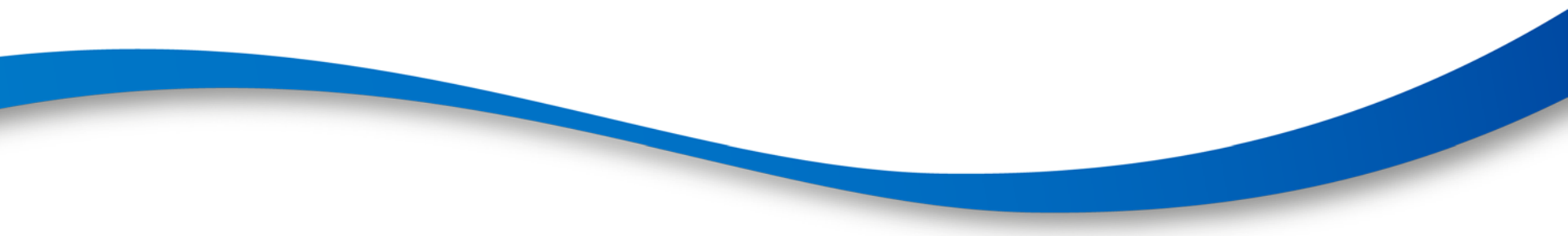
NHS

Blood and Transplant

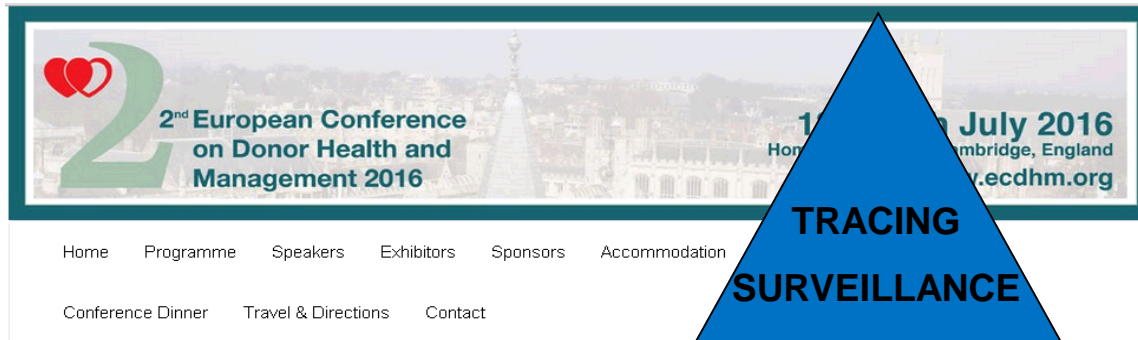


SaBTO
Advisory Committee on the
Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs

Who are SaBTO

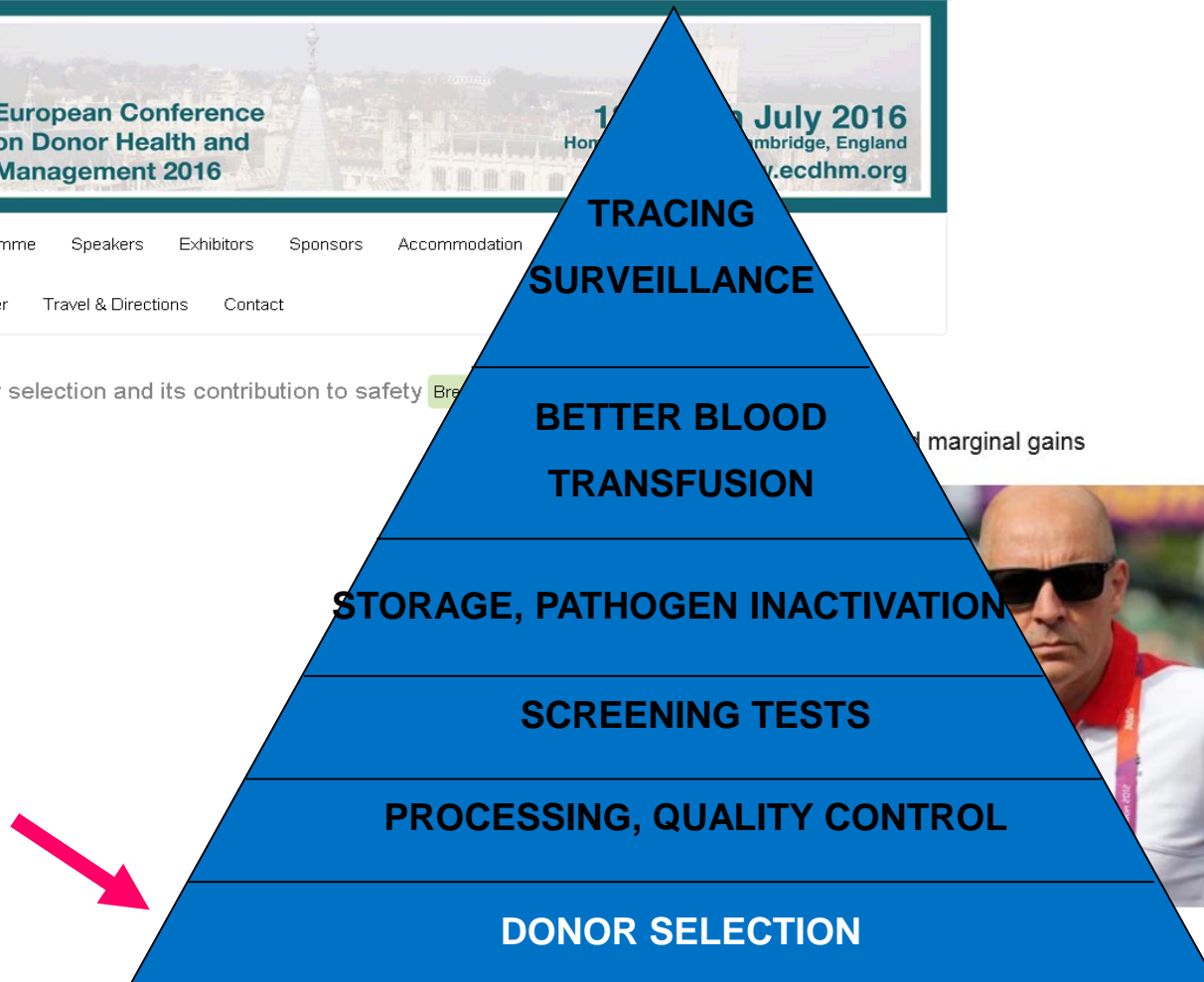
- DH advisory committee
 - Safety of blood, tissues and organs
 - Range of issues that we are asked to review
 - Pathogen inactivation of platelets
 - HEV screening of blood components
 - Donor selection criteria related to sexual behaviours
- 

Why this question?



Session 6: Donor selection and its contribution to safety Bre

marginal gains



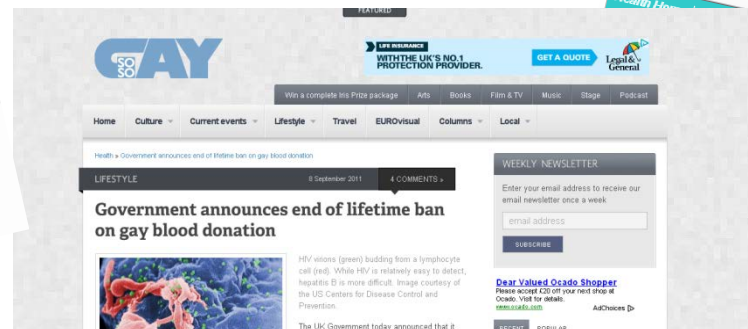
Why do SaBTO care about donor selection guidelines?

Blood (and Tissue) safety as part of EU directive

Permanent deferrals

‘...of persons whose sexual behaviours puts them at high risk of acquiring severe infectious diseases that can be transmitted by blood’

‘any history of non-prescribed IV or IM drug use, including body building steroids or hormones’



Donor selection (part 2)

Temporary deferrals

‘persons whose behaviours or activity places them at risk of acquiring an infectious disease that may be transmitted by blood. Defer after cessation of risk behaviour for a period determined by the disease in question and the availability of appropriate tests’

e.g. some sexual behaviours, piercing, endoscopy

From 2011 the MSM deferral in England, Wales and Scotland



What's happened since 2011?

A thick, solid blue line that starts on the left, dips down, and then rises towards the right, creating a wavy, wave-like shape across the bottom of the slide.

Surveillance

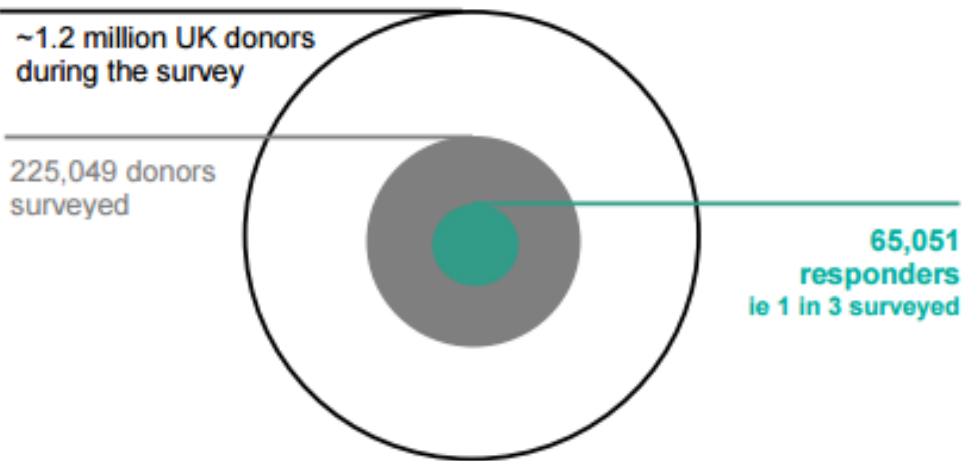


- UK Blood Donor survey
- Post change - over 12 month, all eligible new and sample of repeat donors were invited via email to participate in anonymous online survey:
- Behaviours related to donor criteria
- Compliance
- For non-compliant, reasons were reviewed

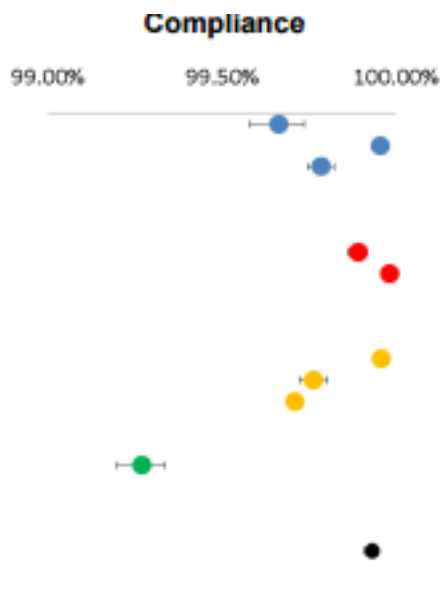


- UK infected donor surveillance
- Pre AND post change - over 6 years, infected new and repeat donors, all microbiological and clinical data:
- Recently acquired infections
- Source of infection
- Compliance
- For non-compliant, reasons were reviewed

UK Blood Donor Survey



- Deferral**
- Paid for sex
 - Sex between men
 - Sex with a high risk partner
 - Injecting drug use
 - Intranasal drug use
 - Travel < 12 months
 - Travel < 2 months
 - Long stay
 - Piercing
 - Hepatitis/jaundice

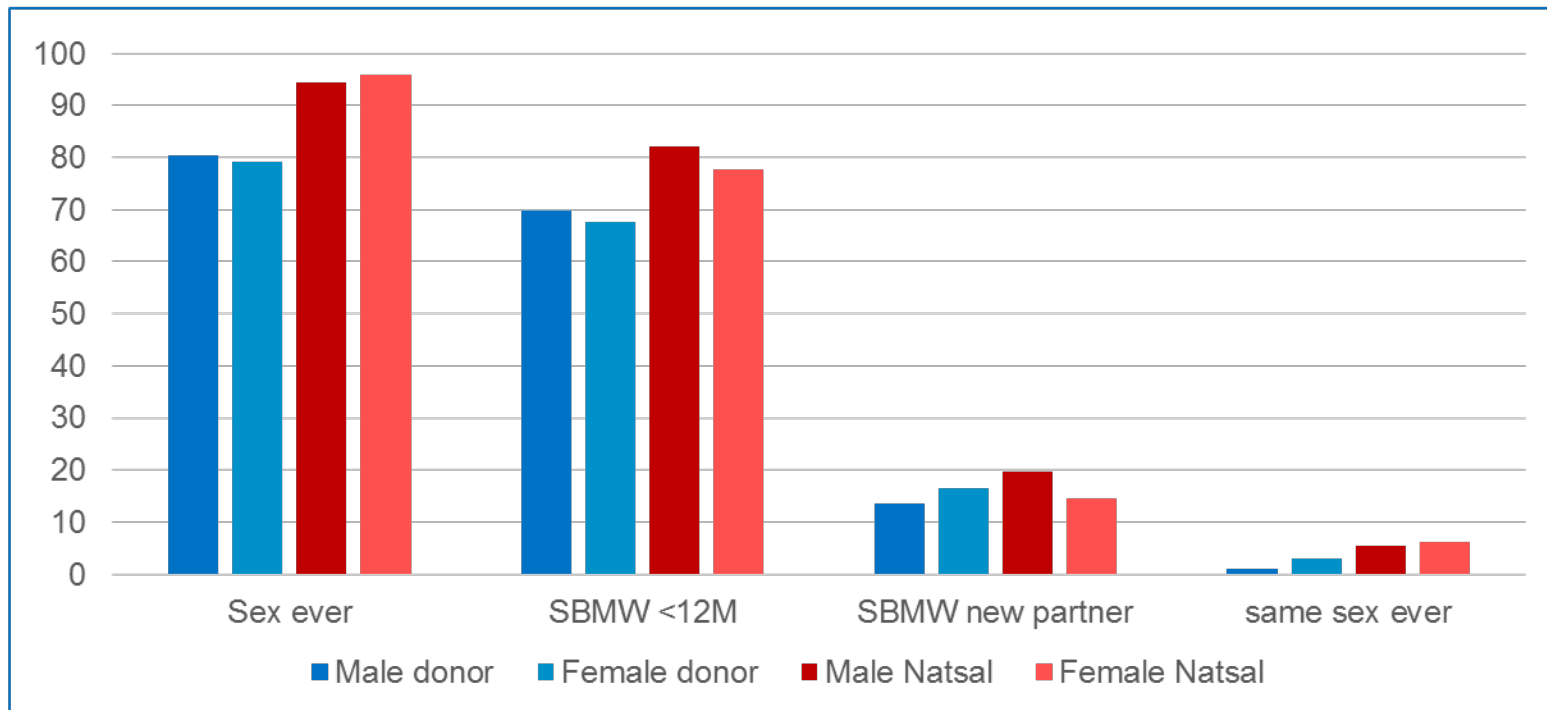


Personal & sensitive information on 65,000 donors

A broad range of donors

Compliance with the DSG of interest exceeded 99.3%

Sexual behaviours: UK donor survey v Natsal



Donor survey n=65,051 17+ years; Natsal n=15162 aged 16-74

**Changes in sexual attitudes and lifestyles in Britain through the life course and over time: Findings from the National Surveys of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal) Copas A.J. et al (2013) The Lancet, 382; 1781-1794.*



25 injected drugs

££££

29 were paid for sex

6 of whom were aged 17-24 years
5 of 6 were female

100s reported that they could not be sure about 'high risk' behaviours of their partner e.g. for woman whether their male partner had ever had sex with a man

1.1% of male donors disclosed sex between men at some time





Getting personal with blood donors – the rationale for, methodology of and an overview of participants in the UK blood donor survey

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of Blood Transfusion

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ORIGINAL PAPER

Compliance with the current 12-month deferral for male-to-male sex in Australia

C. R. Seed,¹ T. T. Lucky,² D. Waller,³ H. Wand,² J. F. Lee,¹ S. Wroth,¹ A. McDonald,² J. Pink,⁴ D. P. Wilson² & A. J. Keller¹

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Selection criteria only as good as the level of compliance

TRANSFUSION

BLOOD DONORS AND BLOOD COLLECTION

Impact of a 5-year deferral from blood donation for men who have sex with men

Sheila F. O'Brien,^{1,2} Lori Osmond,¹ Wenli Fan,¹ Qi-Long Yi,^{1,2} and Mindy Goldman^{1,3}

TRANSFUSION

BLOOD DONORS AND BLOOD COLLECTION

Blood donor deferral for men who have sex with men: the Blood Donation Rules Opinion Study (Blood DROPS)

Brian Custer,^{1,2} Nicolas Sheon,³ Bob Siedle-Khan,³ Lance Pollack,³ Bryan Spencer,⁴ Walter Bialkowski,⁵ Pam D'Andrea,⁶ Marian Sullivan,⁷ Simone Glynn,⁸ and Alan Williams,⁹ for the NHLBI Recipient Epidemiology and Donor Evaluation Study-III (REDS-III)

So what? Where now?



MSM donor selection

- Lobbying for review and change
- Seen as discriminatory
- Public Health Minister requested review.

 **PinkNews**

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Tory MP Michael Fabricant: Gay blood donor ban 'makes no scientific sense'

Joseph Patrick McCormick

5th June 2015, 6:49 PM



Michael Fabricant called on the Government to remove the deferral period



FREEDOMTODONATE



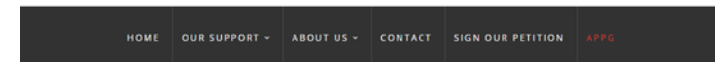
Current situation

- Population based risk assessment-Public Health Approach
 - Sometimes seen as discriminatory
 - Acknowledge that not all people with a particular behaviours have an equal risk of acquiring infection
 - General population or donor population?
 - Safest option for screening?
- An alternative approach-individualised healthcare approach?
 - Individual risk assessment
 - Questions and deferrals applied equally to all donors
 - ?deferral of safe donors

New SaBTO donor selection review

First report expected early 2017

- Blood, tissues and stem cells
- Risk of acquiring a blood-borne infection including sex, piercing deferrals, endoscopy, and injecting drugs
- Big piece of work to complete during 2017
- Range of stakeholders on group



ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON BLOOD
DONATION

Do behavioural donor selection criteria matter?

YES

- Must be
 - appropriate and evidence based
 - acceptable and understandable
 - not impact adversely on supply and safety
 - result in donors being able to fully disclose any ‘risk behaviours’