

Horizon scanning for emerging infections 2019

1. Identification

- The Epidemiology unit produces the Emerging Infection Report (EIR), a monthly horizon scanning list of emerging infections with potential to affect the UK blood and tissue supply

2. Risk assessment

- The Standing Advisory Committee on Transfusion Transmitted Infection (SACTTI) risk-assesses the EIR and highlights whether further action required by Joint UKBTS Professional Advisory Committee (JPAC)

3. Evaluation and decision

- Zika 28-day deferral removed from Florida
- West Nile virus testing extended to donors returning from: France Var region and Cyprus

➤ **Key selected items from Emerging Infection Reports for 2019**

- January 2019 - West Nile virus human cases in Czech Republic and Cyprus in 2018
 - Occult hepatitis B transfusion transmissions in Slovenia revises infectious doses
- February 2019 - PHE/NaTHNaC Zika advice update: If a male partner has travelled, couples should wait three months
- May 2019 - First case in Spain of chikungunya infection by tiger mosquito bite
- June 2019 - WHO added Ethiopia to their list of countries with Zika
- July 2019 - 3rd case of West Nile virus, Piaui, Brazil
- August 2019 – A locally acquired case of dengue in a Miami-Dade resident, a Barcelona resident, the Alpes- Maritime region of France
- September 2019 - 1st time West Nile virus identified as cause of human meningo-encephalitis in Germany
 - Zika virus case in Var, France. Symptoms July 2019
- October 2019 – Sexual transmission of dengue in Madrid
- December 2019 – Novel coronavirus cases reported from China with exported cases and person to person spread seen by January

EIR Sources include: PHE Emerging Infections monthly summaries; European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) communicable disease threat reports, Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases (ProMED) outbreak and news alerts, peer-reviewed literature