

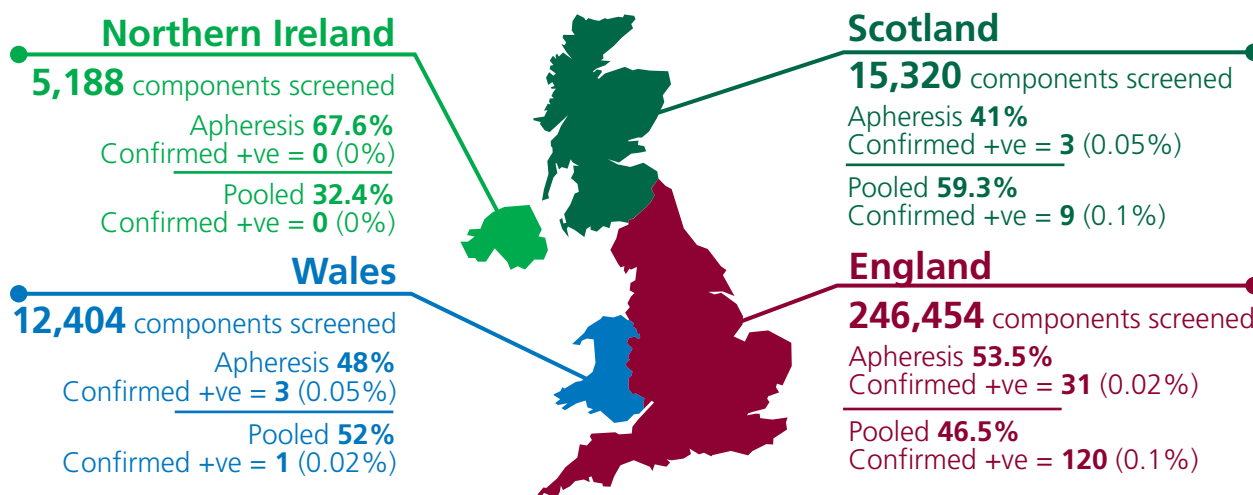


Safe supplies 2020: Progress in a pandemic

Joint working between NHS Blood and Transplant and UK Health Security Agency

# Bacterial screening and bacterial transfusion transmitted infections (TTI), UK 2020

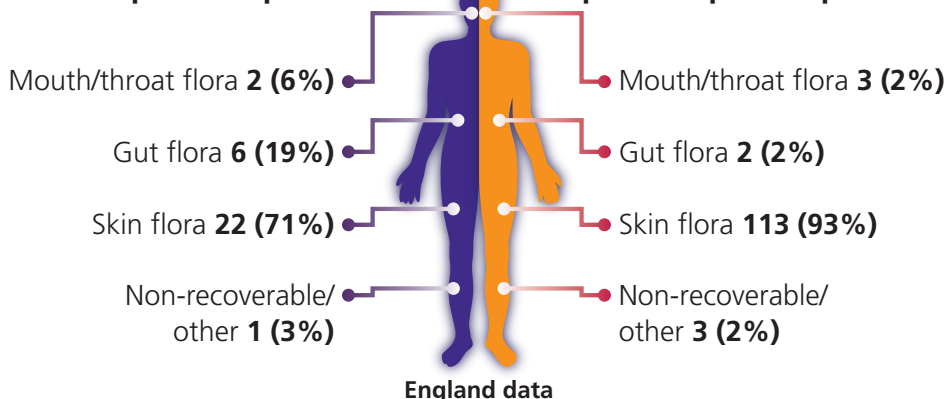
There are very low rates of confirmed positive cases



Most bacteria are skin flora, which are generally less harmful to recipients

Species identified from confirmed positive apheresis platelets

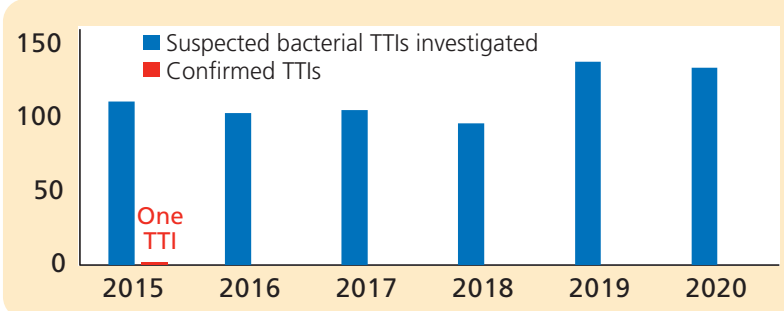
Species identified from confirmed positive pooled platelets



If any potentially harmful bacteria are isolated (such as some gut flora) a post-donation discussion is had with the donor, who may then be referred to a specialist, if necessary

There were no bacterial TTIs identified in the last 5 years

Since bacterial screening of platelets began in 2011, there has been 1 confirmed TTI in 2015 (*Staphylococcus aureus*)



135 suspected bacterial TTIs were investigated in 2020

For more details, see the [Serious Hazards of Transfusion \(SHOT\) report](#) on the SHOT website