

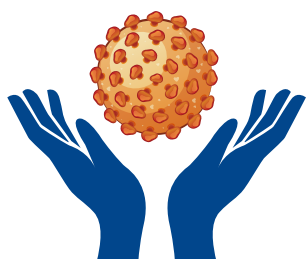


Safe supplies 2020: Progress in a pandemic

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

The Blood Borne Virus Unit (BBVU), 2020

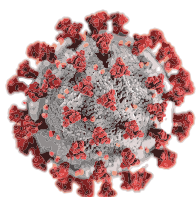
Collaborative working



The BBVU of UKHSA works with NHSBT on a programme of blood safety work.

The unit undertakes surveillance, research and development activities for Hepatitis A virus (HAV) through to Hepatitis E virus (HEV), and also for pathogens that impact on blood safety.

Developing technologies and support systems

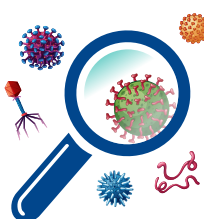


Developing new genomic and serological methods for viral and viral strain detection (for example SARS-CoV-2 antibody assays, HTLV, HHV8).



Seroprevalence studies, evaluating tests and developing assays to inform risk assessments for organ donors.

Supporting work to inform policy on screening and donor selection



Molecular characterisation of viruses and monitoring infections.



Analysis of the diversifying nature and evolving epidemiology of already known viruses (for example West Nile virus, Usutu virus, dengue and chikungunya in Europe).



New genomic and serological methods for viral and viral strain detection.



Assessing known and unknown viral risks from new policies, for example Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and FAIR (For the Assessment of Individualised Risk).