

Collaborating for safety



Since 1995, **The joint NHSBT/UKHSA Epidemiology Unit** has worked in **collaboration** with the UK and Republic of Ireland blood services, UK Health Security Agency, wider NHS, academia and other external partners to **protect** recipients from transfusion-transmitted infections and help ensure donor selection policies **respect** donors.

The Unit are responsible for collating and reporting national epidemiological data on blood-borne infections among donors and recipients, modelling the associated risk of non-detection through transfusion and horizon scanning for new and emerging infection threats. Along with behavioural studies and other research, the Unit has supported policy change across the UK for both blood donation and wider public health. Collaboration with public health enhances awareness of emerging infections and changes affecting donor and blood safety.

The Unit is made up of epidemiologists, public health specialists and a data manager working at both NHSBT and UKHSA.

Abbreviations defined in the glossary on p27.



Collaboration



Surveillance



Evidence