Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

Date of Issue: 17 February 2026 **Implementation:** to be determined by each Service

No. 02 – 2026

Blood component specifications:

Removal of vCJD risk from blood component labels

This notification includes the following changes:

	BM-DSG Bone Marrow & Peripheral Blood Stem Cell	CB-DSG Cord Blood	GDRI Geographical Disease Risk Index	TD-DSG Tissue – Deceased Donors	TL-DSG Tissue – Live Donors	WB-DSG Whole Blood & Components	Red Book Guidelines for the BTS in the UK
1. Multiple specifications	○	○	○	○	○	○	●

Ryan Evans
Chair, Standing Advisory Committee on Blood Components (SACBC)

Dr Stephen Thomas
Professional Director of JPAC

Changes are indicated using the key below. This formatting will not appear in the final entry.

original text	«inserted text»	~~deleted text~~

1. Changes apply to the **Red Book**

The following amendment has been made under the **Labelling** section, which indicates the instructional statements to be included on the component label, for the blood component specifications listed below:

Risk of adverse reaction/infection~~, including vCJD~~

Chapter 7: Specifications for blood components

Whole blood components

7.2.1 Red Cells and Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted

Red cell components

7.3.1 Red Cells, Leucocyte Depleted
7.3.2 Red Cells in Additive Solution, Leucocyte Depleted
7.3.3 Red Cells, Washed, Leucocyte Depleted
7.3.4 Red Cells, Thawed and Washed, Leucocyte Depleted

Platelet components

7.4.1 Platelets, Pooled, Buffy Coat Derived, Leucocyte Depleted
7.4.2 Platelets, Apheresis, Leucocyte Depleted
7.4.3 Platelets, Pooled, Buffy Coat Derived, in Additive Solution and Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted
7.4.4 Platelets in Additive Solution, Leucocyte Depleted

Plasma components

7.5.1 Fresh Frozen Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted
7.5.2 Fresh Frozen Plasma, Pathogen Reduced, Leucocyte Depleted
7.5.3 Cryoprecipitate, Leucocyte Depleted
7.5.4 Cryoprecipitate, Pooled, Leucocyte Depleted
7.5.5 Cryoprecipitate, Pooled, Pathogen Reduced, Leucocyte Depleted

Granulocyte components

7.6.1 Granulocytes, Pooled, Buffy Coat Derived, in Platelet Additive Solution and Plasma

Components suitable for use in Intrauterine Transfusion, Neonates and Infants under 1 year

7.7.1 Red Cells for Intrauterine Transfusion, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.2 Whole Blood for Exchange Transfusion, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.3 Red Cells for Exchange Transfusion, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.4 Red Cells for Neonates and Infants, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.5 Red Cells in Additive Solution for Neonates and Infants, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.6 Platelets for Intrauterine Transfusion, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.7 Platelets for Neonatal Use, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.8 Platelets in Plasma and Additive Solution for Neonatal Use, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.9 Fresh Frozen Plasma for Neonates and Infants, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.10 Fresh Frozen Plasma for Neonates and Infants, Pathogen Reduced, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.11 Cryoprecipitate for Neonates and Infants, Leucocyte Depleted
7.7.12 Cryoprecipitate for Neonates and Infants, Pathogen Reduced, Leucocyte Depleted

Annex 3: Provisional components

A3.1 Platelets in Additive Solution and Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted, Pathogen-reduced
A3.2 Red Cells in Additive Solution, Leucocyte Depleted, Pathogen Reduced
A3.3 Liquid Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted
A3.4 Red Cells, Rejuvenated and Washed, Leucocyte Depleted
A3.6 Whole Blood, Leucocyte Depleted, for Clinical Studies
A3.9 Cryoprecipitate Pooled, Leucocyte Depleted, Extended Shelf-life Post-thaw
A3.10 Convalescent Plasma (VCOV-19), FFP, Leucocyte Depleted
A3.11 Dried Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted
A3.12 Platelets, Apheresis, in Additive Solution and Plasma, Leucocyte Depleted

Annex 5: Blood components for contingency use

A5.1 Red Cells in Additive Solution, Leucocyte Depleted, Extended Shelf Life
A5.2 Platelets, Apheresis, Leucocyte Depleted, at Reduced Dose as a Contingency