

Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion Services

Welcome

<http://www.transfusionguidelines.org/red-book>

Guidelines for the Blood Transfusion and Tissue Transplantation Services in the UK

Recent updates 12.03.2024

Please note the 8th Edition of the Red Book is currently being reviewed and significant chapter updates are being released. These updated chapters replace those in the hardcopy and online 8th Edition and will be available online only. Once all chapter updates are complete, the 8th Edition will be archived and printed versions of the Red Book considered obsolete.

The following chapters have now been updated:

Chapters 2 to 22

Annexes 1, 3 to 7

These Guidelines apply to the donation and preparation of materials derived from blood, tissue and stem cells by the United Kingdom Blood Transfusion and Tissue Transplantation Services for therapeutic and diagnostic use. The guidelines reflect an expert view of current best practice, provide specifications for products and components, and describe technical details of processes. Every effort has been made to ensure that the guidelines reflect the legally binding requirements of the *Blood Safety (and Quality) Regulations, UK Statutory Instrument 2005*.

Since the last hard-copy publication of the Guidelines (known as the Red Book) in 2013, there have been many updates and the usefulness of hard copy documents has declined. Therefore, the Guidelines will now be published online only.

Publication of Guidelines and any subsequent updates does not necessarily mean that the practices outlined are brought into use by all services, or that implementation will be simultaneous - the implementation dates may be decided separately by the four 4 Services. Please consult your relevant Service ([England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) or [Wales](#)) for details of implementation dates.