

If you are happy for your donation to be used in this way, please sign the form opposite. If you do not wish for your donation to be used for this purpose, please leave the form blank. Your blood donation will then be used in the usual way, as explained in the blood donation information leaflet.

If you have any questions or comments in relation to this, please ask a member of staff who will help if possible or if not, will pass your question on for a response.

Affix donation number here

Donor Consent

I have read and understood the leaflet (TAF200701) provided to me today, regarding use of blood donations for assessment of future vCJD tests.

Please tick

- I have had an opportunity to ask questions.
- I am satisfied with the answers to my questions.
- I agree that my blood donation may be used as outlined in the information leaflet (TAF200701).

Donor Signature _____

Print Name _____

Date _____

Staff Signature _____

Date _____

Using blood donations for the evaluation of new laboratory tests

Information for Donors



You may be aware of concerns regarding the possibility of vCJD being passed from a blood donor to a patient through blood transfusions. In the last few years we have introduced a number of measures designed to reduce this chance. Further work is being carried out to develop a blood test or tests that could be used to screen all blood donations before use.

Before any new test can be introduced, it is important to make sure that the test works properly. We also need to know how many donations will produce a reaction and how the test would perform compared to other groups (i.e. donors from the United States that have not been exposed to vCJD through beef).

To evaluate these new vCJD tests, we need a number of donations to help assess them as they become available. The donors providing these donations will be chosen at random from throughout the UK, from all age groups, both sexes and different ethnic backgrounds. We also need a similar number of donations from blood donors in the United States to compare the results with.

As a regular blood donor you should be aware that, on occasions, over the years, we have used blood donations for research and development. Evaluating the tests for vCJD forms part of this ongoing work. This work is carried out only if we are sure there will be no detrimental effect on blood stocks for patients. This research forms part of our ongoing commitment to improving our service.

With your permission, we are hoping that a small number of blood donations taken today will be allocated for this purpose. This session has been selected at random and please be reassured that no patients who have received your blood are known to have gone on to develop vCJD. This work is being done as part of a collaboration with the National Blood Service (NBS) in England who are undertaking it on behalf of the whole of the UK.

Before you agree to anything, we want you to be clear as to what would happen if you allow us to use your donation in this way:-

1. It will not be possible to link any results obtained in this testing back to the donors whose blood has been used. We will make all samples anonymous. The process will assess the performance and evaluate the use of the test only.
2. Any donation included in this work will have all identifying information removed, once the consent has been confirmed. This confirmation process is the only reason for including the donation number on the form. We have a dedicated computer system that removes the information and makes all samples completely and irreversibly anonymous.
3. The donation will be separated into its different parts (red cells, white cells and plasma) and all these will be stored for use in the future.
4. When a potential vCJD test has been developed, we will assess the test against a random selection of these samples.
5. As you have allowed your blood to be used in this way, it will not be wasted – it may possibly be used for other Research & Development projects in the future.
6. The blood samples will remain under the care of the National Blood Service and not be given to any third party.
7. Your blood donor record will not show that your blood donation was specifically used in this way.