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Subject: Re: Questions on vCJD and blood

Maria

- vCJD has been diagnosed in 13 individuals who donated blood at some time.
- 23 individuals in England have been identified as having received blood components donated by individuals who subsequently developed vCJD. Their identities are known only to the National Blood Service and the CJD Surveillance Unit
- Recipients of blood components traced to vCJD-affected individuals are identified and deferred as blood donors. If they present as blood donors, they will be given sufficient information to enable them to decide whether they wish to know the reason for their deferral (only 7 out of the 23 are in the eligible age range to give blood).
- the guidance being produced by the CJD Incident Panel will include the management of incidents involving blood components.
- on blood products, we are not currently trying to establish a figure for recipients of the implicated batches. We will decide what action is needed once this whole area has been fully considered by the CJD Incidents Panel.

Charles