

# **Invitation to the 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting of SaBTO**

(Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs)

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2008, 2pm-4pm

New King's Beam House, London SE1

The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood, Tissues, and Organs (SaBTO) is a Non-Departmental Public Body, with an independent Chair and members selected by the Appointments Commission for their specific areas of expertise. SaBTO provides independent advice to the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations on the most appropriate ways to ensure the safety of blood, cells, tissues, and organs for transfusion/transplantation. SaBTO also provides advice on the microbiological safety of gametes and stem cells, and considers both risk assessment and risk management options for Ministers and UK Health Departments to consider. At their inaugural meeting, SaBTO decided that a public meeting should be held every year, focusing on a particular issue within the committee's remit. It has been decided that this year's meeting will focus on issues surrounding variant CJD and blood.

Further detailed information about SaBTO and its remit can be found at [www.advisorybodies.doh.gov.uk/acsbto/index.htm](http://www.advisorybodies.doh.gov.uk/acsbto/index.htm).

## **Provisional programme:**

### **"Variant CJD and blood"**

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| 2pm    | Chair's welcome and introduction to SaBTO (John Forsythe)                       |
| 2.10pm | Introduction to variant CJD and blood, followed by questions (Hester Ward)      |
| 2.35pm | Current safety measures and future options, followed by questions (Marc Turner) |
| 3pm    | Third presentation (TBC) followed by questions                                  |
| 3.25pm | Open forum  |
| 3.55pm | Chair's conclusions   |
| 4pm    | Close   |

It is intended for the audience to reflect a wide range of stakeholders and interest groups. Should the event be oversubscribed, there will be a limit of one delegate per organisation. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail [SaBTO@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SaBTO@dh.gsi.gov.uk) or telephone 020 7972 4750 by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2008**. Please note that this event is free of charge for all delegates.

**The panel will be made up of four SaBTO members, although it is anticipated that all committee members will be present.**

**Mr John Forsythe** is the chair of SaBTO. He is a Consultant Transplant Surgeon at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and has been President and Secretary of the British Transplantation Society. He is also a Clinical Director of Transplant/GI/Renal Services at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and is a Reader at the University of Edinburgh. He is Specialty Advisor to the Chief Medical Officer of Scotland, Chairman of the Scottish Transplant Group (Advisory Group to the Scottish Minister of Health), and a Non-executive Board Member for both NHS Quality Improvement Scotland and NHS Blood and Transplant.

SaBTO CJD expert **Dr Hester Ward** is a Consultant in Public Health and Epidemiology and a Reader, University of Edinburgh. She is Director of the National CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh and a consultant with Health Protection Scotland. Dr Ward is Member of the National CJD Incidents Panel, the Standing Advisory Committee of Transfusion Transmissible Infections Working Group on CJD, the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee Epidemiology Sub- Group and a Lothian Local Research Ethics Committee.

SaBTO haematologist **Professor Marc Turner** is a Professor of Cellular Therapy, University of Edinburgh and Associate Director, Scottish Centre for Regenerative Medicine. He is also a Consultant Haematologist with the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and NHS Lothian and Clinical Director of the Edinburgh Blood Transfusion Centre and Aberdeen Blood Transfusion Centre, as well as, Lead Clinical Director of the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service.

**Mr Elwyn Nicol**, BA (Hons), MA, received a heart transplant in 2004, and is the SaBTO patient representative. He is a Senior Development Manager for South East England Development Agency, responsible for delivering major regeneration projects in Medway and Kent Thameside. Prior to this he was Founder and Managing Director of a development company, Connaught Commercial Developments PLC and has been a director of Stock Exchange Listed public companies. He is member of the Rochester Riverside Project Board and the Chatham World Heritage Site Steering Group.