

## Change Notification for the UK Blood Transfusion Services

**Date of Issue:** 19 January 2026

**Implementation:** to be determined by each Service

No. 01 – 2026

### Introduction of seasonal risk for Tropical Viruses

A seasonal risk period for Tropical Viruses, from 1st May to 30th November, is now being applied to European countries where appropriate monitoring is in place. This is currently for France and Italy only.


All other countries with a current Tropical Viruses risk continue to have an all-year risk.

	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
<b>Introduction of seasonal risk</b>							
1. France	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
2. Italy	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
<b>Clarification of all-year risk</b>							
3. Australia	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
4. Chile	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
5. Iran	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
6. United States of America	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
7. Multiple countries	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
<b>Addition of Chikungunya Virus risk</b>							
8. Cuba	○	○	●	○	○	○	○
<b>Removal of Dengue Virus risk</b>							
9. Monaco	○	○	●	○	○	○	○



**Dr Jayne Hughes**

Chair, Standing Advisory Committee on  
Care & Selection of Donors (SACCSO)



**Dr Stephen Thomas**

Professional Director of JPAC

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

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## 1. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

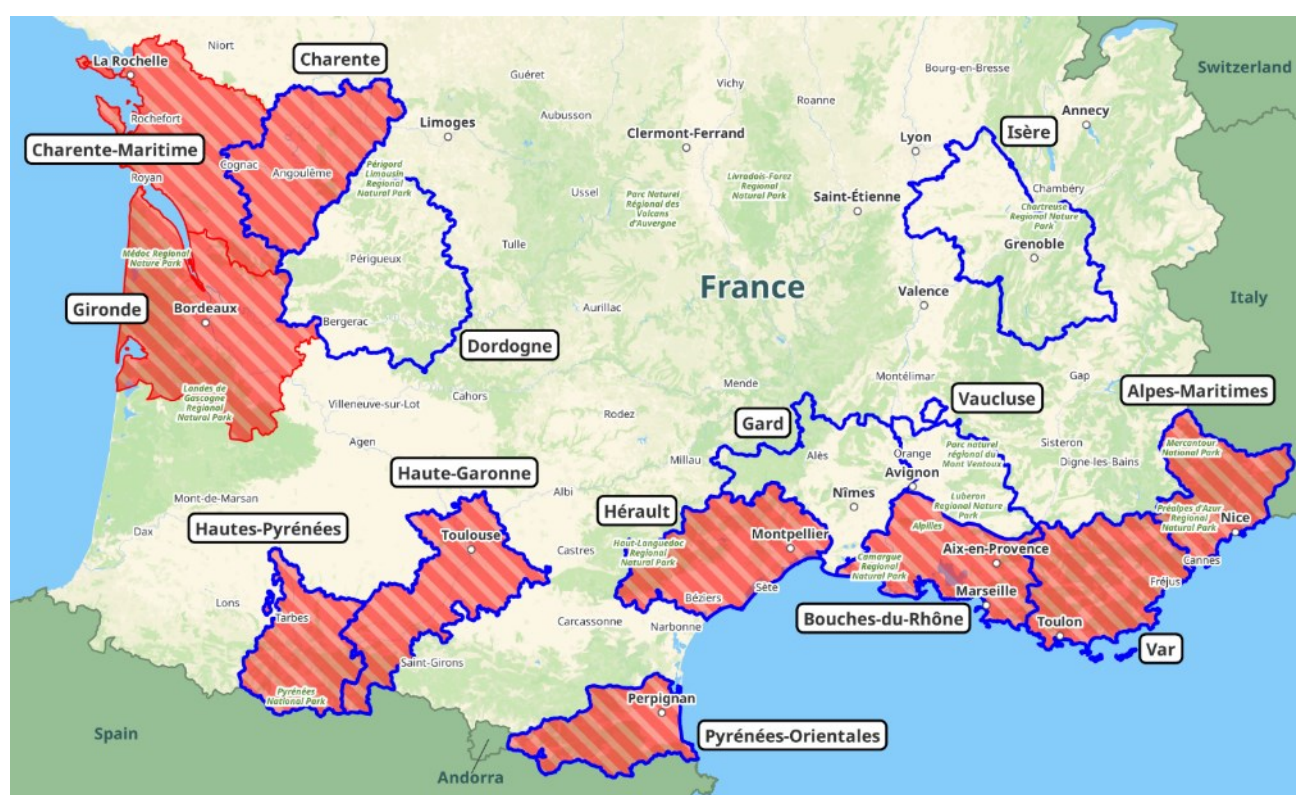
### France

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No														
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No														
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No														
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>Donors who have visited the following departments (regions) of France, between 1st May and the 30th November, must have the WNV Donor Selection Guideline applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alpes-Maritimes</li> <li>• Bouches-du-Rhône</li> <li>• Charente</li> <li>• Charente-Maritime</li> <li>• Gironde</li> <li>• Haute-Garonne</li> <li>• Hautes-Pyrénées</li> <li>• Hérault</li> <li>• Pyrénées-Orientales</li> <li>• Var</li> </ul> <p>These regions are shaded in red on the map.</p>														
<i>Tropical Virus Risk</i>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>«Chikungunya Virus and Dengue Virus</p> <p>Donors who have visited Corsica, between 1st May and 30th November, must have the Tropical Viruses Donor Selection Guideline applied (not shown on the map).</p> <p>Donors who have visited the following departments (regions) of mainland France, between 1st May and 30th November, must have the Tropical Viruses Donor Selection Guideline applied. These regions are outlined in blue on the map.»</p> <p><del>There is a tropical virus risk in the departments (regions) shown in the table below. These regions are outlined in blue on the map.</del></p> <p><del>There is a tropical virus risk in all of Corsica (not shown on map).</del></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Department affected</th><th>Virus</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Alpes-Maritimes</td><td>Chikungunya, Dengue</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bouches-du-Rhône</td><td>Chikungunya, Dengue</td></tr> <tr> <td>Charente</td><td>Chikungunya</td></tr> <tr> <td>Dordogne</td><td>Chikungunya</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gard</td><td>Chikungunya, Dengue</td></tr> <tr> <td>Haute-Garonne</td><td>Chikungunya, Dengue</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Department affected	Virus	Alpes-Maritimes	Chikungunya, Dengue	Bouches-du-Rhône	Chikungunya, Dengue	Charente	Chikungunya	Dordogne	Chikungunya	Gard	Chikungunya, Dengue	Haute-Garonne	Chikungunya, Dengue
Department affected	Virus														
Alpes-Maritimes	Chikungunya, Dengue														
Bouches-du-Rhône	Chikungunya, Dengue														
Charente	Chikungunya														
Dordogne	Chikungunya														
Gard	Chikungunya, Dengue														
Haute-Garonne	Chikungunya, Dengue														

	Hautes-Pyrénées	Dengue
	Hérault	Chikungunya, Dengue
	Isère	Chikungunya
	Pyrénées-Orientales	Dengue
	Var	Chikungunya, Dengue
	Vaucluse	Dengue
Information	Map data ©MapTiler ©OpenStreetMap contributors	

(The map is unchanged)



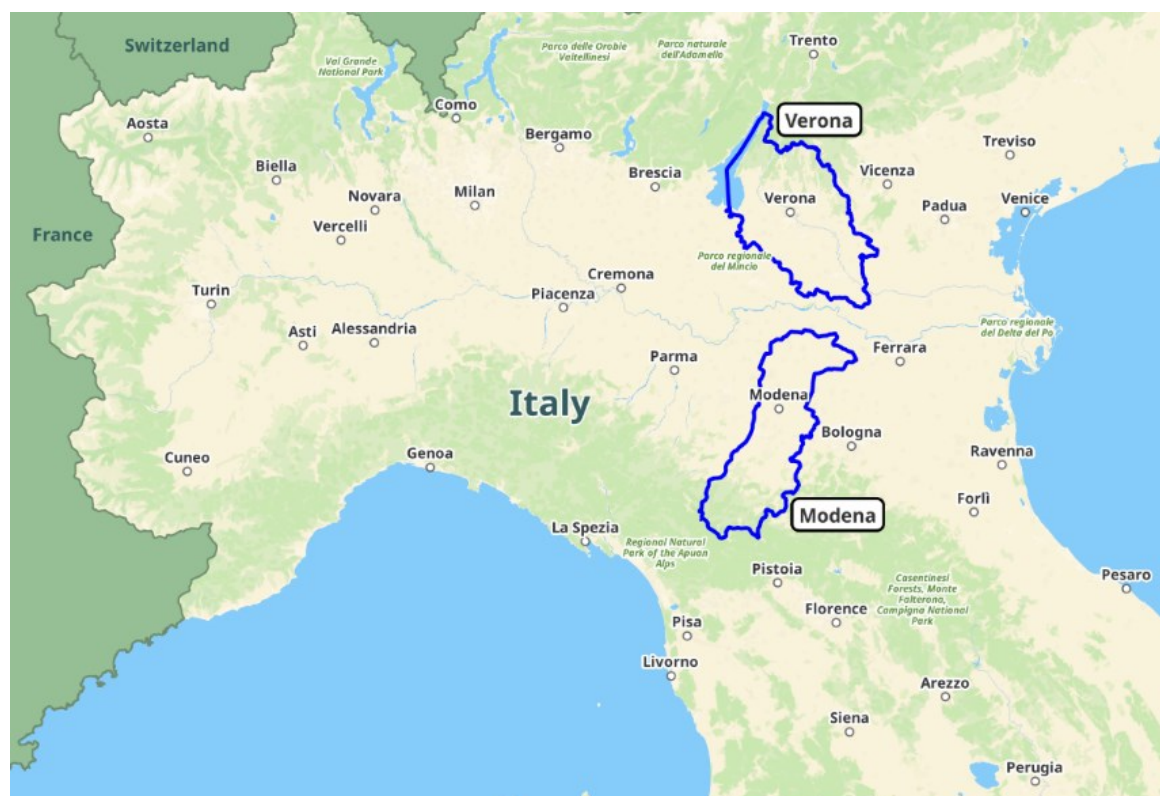
## 2. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

### Italy

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> Donors who have visited between 1st May and 30th November must have the WNV Donor Selection Guideline applied.
<i>Tropical Virus Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> «Chikungunya Virus Donors who have visited the provinces of Modena and Verona, between 1st May and 30th November, must have the Tropical Viruses Donor Selection Guideline applied. These regions are outlined in blue on the map.» <del>Chikungunya Virus in the provinces of Modena and Verona. These regions are outlined in blue on the map.</del>
<i>Information</i>	Map data ©MapTiler ©OpenStreetMap contributors

(The map is unchanged)



### 3. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

#### Australia

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	No
<i>Tropical Viruses Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> Dengue Virus <del>in the state of Queensland.</del> «Risk applies all year in the state of Queensland only»
<i>Information</i>	Map data ©2024 Google

(The map is unchanged)





#### 4. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

##### **Chile**

**(revised entry)**

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	No
<i>Tropical Viruses Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> Dengue Virus and Zika Virus, <del>both in Easter Island only.</del> «Risk applies all year in Easter Island only»

#### 5. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

##### **Iran**

**(revised entry)**

<i>Malaria</i>	<b>Yes</b> Malaria risk exists from March to November in rural Iran south of Kerman City
<i>Malaria Risk Category</i>	<b>C</b>
<i>Previous Malaria Risk</i>	Yes all year whole country until Feb 1996
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	No
<i>Tropical Viruses Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> Dengue Virus «Risk applies» all year in Hormozgan Province «only»

## 6. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

### United States of America

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>in all regions of the USA except Hawaii, Alaska and US Virgin Islands (St Choix, St John and St Thomas in the Leeward Islands)</p> <p>Donors who have visited between 1st May and the 30th November must have the WNV Donor Selection Guideline applied.</p>
<i>Tropical Viruses Risk</i>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>«Chikungunya Virus, Dengue Virus and Zika Virus</p> <p>Risk applies all year in the following islands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US Virgin Islands (St Choix, St John and St Thomas): Chikungunya Virus, Dengue Virus, Zika Virus</li> <li>• Hawaii: Dengue Virus»</li> </ul> <p><del>Chikungunya Virus and Zika virus in the US Virgin Islands (St Choix, St John and St Thomas in the Leeward Islands). Dengue virus in Hawaii.</del></p> <p><del>Donors who have visited these islands must have the Tropical Virus Donor Selection Guideline applied.</del></p>

## 7. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

The following has been added to all other countries with a current Tropical Viruses risk:

<i>Tropical Viruses Risk</i>	<b>Yes [viruses as currently specified]</b> «Risk applies all year in whole country»
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- |                                      |                               |                                    |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Afghanistan                        | • Djibouti                    | • Malaysia                         | • Saint Martin                     |
| • American Samoa                     | • Dominica                    | • Maldives                         | • Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| • Angola                             | • Dominican Republic          | • Mali                             | • Samoa                            |
| • Anguilla                           | • East Timor                  | • Marshall Islands                 | • São Tomé and Príncipe            |
| • Antigua and Barbuda                | • Ecuador                     | • Martinique                       | • Saudi Arabia                     |
| • Argentina                          | • Egypt                       | • Mauritania                       | • Senegal                          |
| • Aruba                              | • El Salvador                 | • Mauritius                        | • Seychelles                       |
| • Bahamas (The)                      | • Equatorial Guinea           | • Mayotte                          | • Sierra Leone                     |
| • Bangladesh                         | • Eritrea                     | • Mexico                           | • Singapore                        |
| • Barbados                           | • Eswatini                    | • Micronesia (Federated States of) | • Sint Maarten                     |
| • Belize                             | • Ethiopia                    | • Montserrat                       | • Solomon Islands                  |
| • Benin                              | • Fiji                        | • Mozambique                       | • Somalia                          |
| • Bermuda                            | • Former Netherlands Antilles | • Myanmar                          | • South Africa                     |
| • Bhutan                             | • French Guiana               | • Namibia                          | • South Sudan                      |
| • Bolivia                            | • French Polynesia            | • Nauru                            | • Sri Lanka                        |
| • Borneo                             | • Gabon                       | • Nepal                            | • Sudan                            |
| • Brazil                             | • Gambia (The)                | • New Caledonia                    | • Suriname                         |
| • British Virgin Islands             | • Ghana                       | • Nicaragua                        | • Taiwan                           |
| • Brunei Darussalam                  | • Grenada                     | • Niger                            | • Tanzania                         |
| • Burkina Faso                       | • Guadeloupe                  | • Nigeria                          | • Thailand                         |
| • Burundi                            | • Guam                        | • Niue                             | • Togo                             |
| • Cambodia                           | • Guatemala                   | • Northern Mariana Islands         | • Tokelau                          |
| • Cameroon                           | • Guinea                      | • Oman                             | • Tonga                            |
| • Cape Verde                         | • Guinea-Bissau               | • Pakistan                         | • Trinidad and Tobago              |
| • Cayman Islands                     | • Guyana                      | • Palau                            | • Turks and Caicos Islands         |
| • Central African Republic           | • Haiti                       | • Panama                           | • Tuvalu                           |
| • Chad                               | • Honduras                    | • Papua New Guinea                 | • Uganda                           |
| • China                              | • India                       | • Paraguay                         | • United Arab Emirates             |
| • Colombia                           | • Indonesia                   | • Peru                             | • Uruguay                          |
| • Comoros                            | • Jamaica                     | • Philippines                      | • Vanuatu                          |
| • Congo (Democratic Republic of the) | • Kenya                       | • Puerto Rico                      | • Venezuela                        |
| • Congo (Republic of the)            | • Kiribati                    | • Réunion                          | • Vietnam                          |
| • Cook Islands                       | • Laos                        | • Rwanda                           | • Wallis and Futuna                |
| • Costa Rica                         | • Liberia                     | • Saint Barthelemy                 | • Yemen                            |
| • Côte D'Ivoire                      | • Macau                       | • Saint Kitts and Nevis            | • Zambia                           |
| • Curaçao                            | • Madagascar                  | • Saint Lucia                      | • Zimbabwe                         |
|                                      | • Malawi                      |                                    |                                    |



## 8. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

### Cuba

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	No
<i>Tropical Virus Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> «Chikungunya Virus,» Dengue Virus and Zika Virus «Risk applies all year in whole country»

## 9. Changes apply to the **Geographical Disease Risk Index**

### Monaco

(revised entry)

<i>Malaria</i>	No
<i>Trypanosoma Cruzi Risk</i>	No
<i>Sub Saharan Africa</i>	No
<i>West Nile Virus Risk</i>	<b>Yes</b> «Donors who have visited between 1st May and 30th November must have the WNV Donor Selection Guideline applied.» <del>There is also a Tropical Virus risk (Dengue) which should be applied.</del>
<i>Tropical Virus Risk</i>	«No» <del>Yes Dengue Virus</del>