

SaBTO

Advisory Committee on the Safety of
Blood, Tissues and Organs

2nd Public Meeting
“Blood Donation – Selection, Deferral and Exclusion”
27 October 2009
Royal Horticultural Halls, London SW1P

At their inaugural meeting in January 2008, members of SaBTO decided that a public meeting should be held every year, focusing on a particular issue within the committee’s remit. The 2009 Public Meeting will focus on the issue of donor selection. Selection of donors is key to the delivery of a safe blood supply. Many prospective donors may be turned down for a variety of reasons, including age, sexual history and medical concerns. As a scientific advisory committee, SaBTO is concerned that exclusion or deferral of prospective blood donors is done for justifiable reasons and in the best interests of blood recipients.

The format of the afternoon will include an introduction to SaBTO and donor selection, and an open forum with the opportunity for the audience to comment and ask questions.

The committee hopes that the audience will 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 or telephone 020 7972 4750 **by 13 October 2009 (this deadline has been extended)**. Please note that this event is free of charge for all delegates.

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.

Further detailed information about SaBTO and its remit can be found at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/ab/SaBTO/index.htm>.