

Change Notification for the UK Blood and Tissue Services

Notification date:	01 April 2026
Effective date:	01 May 2026
Implementation:	To be determined by each Service

CN 10-2026

Changes to the entries in the GDRI and DSGs

This notification details changes that will be implemented with the launch of the new JPAC website and will apply to both the current website and the new website. Changes are presented using the visual style of the new website, but equivalent changes will be made to the current website.

See **CN 09-2026** for launch information and for changes that will apply to the new website only.

Please note, this Change Notification introduces several changes to presentation and layout:

- The formatting of text markup has been updated to improve accessibility:
 - Inserted text will be shown as purple text with underline
 - ~~Deleted text~~ will be shown as dark red italicised text with strikethrough
- The previous summary table of changes has been replaced with a more accessible alternative
- Colour coordination of the guidelines mirrors the ‘Guidelines affected’ tags used on the new website
- The document has been restructured to better indicate guidelines affected and reasons for change

This notification includes the following changes:

	Content changed	Type of change	Guidelines affected
1	Country inclusion criteria	Additional guidance Removed entries	Geographical index
2	Åland Islands	New entry	Geographical index
3	Vatican City	New entry	Geographical index
4	Western Sahara	New entry	Geographical index
5	British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)	Renamed entry	Geographical index
6	Svalbard and Jan Mayen	Merged entries	Geographical index
7	United States Minor Outlying Islands (USMOI)	Merged entries	Geographical index
8	United States of America (USA)	Separated entry	Geographical index

Content changed	Type of change	Guidelines affected
9 United States Virgin Islands (USVI)	Separated entry	Geographical index
10 Chagas disease	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased) Tissue (live) Bone marrow Cord blood
11 Dysplasia of the hip	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased) Tissue (live)
12 Kala-azar	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased) Tissue (live) Bone marrow Cord blood
13 Spherocytosis	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased)
14 Sleeping sickness	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased) Tissue (live) Bone marrow Cord blood
15 Trisomy 21	Removed entry	Tissue (deceased)



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

original text	inserted text	deleted text
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1. Country inclusion criteria

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	Addition of new country inclusion criteria and subsequent removal of entries.

The following text will be added to the preliminary information in the GDRI:

Country inclusion criteria

From Release 56 (01 May 2026), the entries in the GDRI are primarily countries and territories that have an ISO 3166 code. The spelling of entries is according to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) list, which includes adaptations to UK English spelling.

Previous versions of the GDRI contained some entries which are not countries or territories; these do not have an ISO 3166 code and are not included in the FCDO list. These have either been retained as keywords in other GDRI entries or deleted.

The following entries will be removed:

- Ashmore and Cartier Islands
- Clipperton Island
- Glorioso Islands
- Leeward Islands (Caribbean)
- Lesser Antilles
- Paracel Islands
- Spratly Islands
- Tromelin Island
- Windward Islands (Caribbean)

The following entries will be renamed (guidance text is unchanged):

Current name	New name
Czech Republic	Czechia
East Timor	Timor Leste
Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland)	Eswatini
Former Netherland Antilles	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba
Hong Kong (S.A.R.)	Hong Kong
Macau	Macao
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Micronesia
North Korea (Democratic Peoples Republic of)	North Korea
Saint Helena	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
South Korea (Republic of)	South Korea
West Bank, Gaza Strip and Palestine Occupied Territories	Palestine

Where relevant, renamed entries will retain previous names as 'Also known as' terms.

2. Åland Islands

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry.

Åland Islands

[Malaria](#) [No Risk](#)

[Trypanosoma cruzi](#) [No Risk](#)

[West Nile Virus](#) [No Risk](#)

[Viral haemorrhagic fever](#) [No Risk](#)

[Tropical viruses](#) [No Risk](#)

3. Vatican City

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry.

Vatican City

[Malaria](#) [No Risk](#)

[Trypanosoma cruzi](#) [No Risk](#)

[West Nile Virus](#) [No Risk](#)

[Viral haemorrhagic fever](#) [No Risk](#)

[Tropical viruses](#) [No Risk](#)

4. Western Sahara

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry.

Western Sahara

[Malaria](#) [No Risk](#)

[Trypanosoma cruzi](#) [No Risk](#)

[West Nile Virus](#) [No Risk](#)

[Viral haemorrhagic fever](#) [No Risk](#)

[Tropical viruses](#) [No Risk](#)

5. British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	Entry renamed from 'Diego Garcia' to 'British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)'. 'Diego Garcia' has been added to the 'Includes' list in 'Additional information'

British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) ~~Diego Garcia~~

Malaria	No Risk
<i>Trypanosoma cruzi</i>	No Risk
West Nile Virus	No Risk
Viral haemorrhagic fever	No Risk
Tropical viruses	No Risk
<u>Additional information</u>	<p><u>Includes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Diego Garcia</u>

6. Svalbard and Jan Mayen

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry merging the previous ‘Svalbard’ and ‘Jan Mayen’ entries.

Svalbard and Jan Mayen

[Malaria](#) [No Risk](#)

[Trypanosoma cruzi](#) [No Risk](#)

[West Nile Virus](#) [No Risk](#)

[Viral haemorrhagic fever](#) [No Risk](#)

[Tropical viruses](#) [No Risk](#)

7. United States Minor Outlying Islands (USMOI)

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry merging multiple previous entries. These regions have been added to the 'Includes' list in 'Additional information'.

The following entries will be merged to create a new entry:

- Baker Island
- Howland Island
- Jarvis Island
- Johnston Atoll
- Kingman Reef
- Midway Islands
- Navassa Island
- Palmyra Atoll
- Wake Atoll

<u>United States Minor Outlying Islands (USMOI)</u>	
Malaria	No Risk
Trypanosoma cruzi	No Risk
West Nile Virus	No Risk
Viral haemorrhagic fever	No Risk
Tropical viruses	No Risk
Additional information	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baker Island • Howland Island • Jarvis Island • Johnston Atoll • Kingman Reef • Midway Islands • Navassa Island • Palmyra Atoll • Wake Atoll

8. United States of America (USA)

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	Entry updated to separate guidance into a new 'United States Virgin Islands (USVI)' entry.

United States of America [\(USA\)](#)

Malaria	No Risk
<i>Trypanosoma cruzi</i>	No Risk
West Nile Virus	<p>Risk</p> <p>All regions of the USA except Hawaii and Alaska.</p> <p><i>Risk in all regions of the USA except Hawaii, Alaska and US Virgin Islands (St Choix, St John and St Thomas in the Leeward Islands).</i></p> <p>Donors who have visited between 1 May and 30 November must have the WNV guideline applied.</p>
Viral haemorrhagic fever	No Risk
Tropical viruses	<p>Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chikungunya Virus</i> • Dengue Virus • <i>Zika Virus</i> <p>Risk applies all year in Hawaii only.</p> <p><i>Risk applies all year in the following islands:</i></p> <p><i>US Virgin Islands (St Choix, St John and St Thomas): Chikungunya Virus, Dengue Virus, Zika Virus</i></p> <p><i>Hawaii: Dengue Virus</i></p>

9. United States Virgin Islands (USVI)

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Geographical index	This is a new entry to separate guidance from the 'United States of America (USA)' entry. Named islands are included in the 'Includes' list in 'Additional information'.

United States Virgin Islands (USVI)

Malaria	No Risk
Trypanosoma cruzi	No Risk
West Nile Virus	No Risk
Viral haemorrhagic fever	No Risk
Tropical viruses	<p>Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chikungunya Virus • Dengue Virus • Zika Virus <p>Risk applies all year in whole region.</p>
Additional information	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Croix • St John • St Thomas

10. Chagas disease

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Tissue (deceased)	This entry is a duplicate of the ‘South American trypanosomiasis’ entry.
Tissue (live)	
Bone marrow	
Cord blood	

The ‘Chagas disease’ entry will be removed.

‘Chagas disease’ will be added to the ‘South American trypanosomiasis’ entry as an ‘Also known as’ term.

The guidance text of the ‘South American trypanosomiasis’ entry is unchanged.

11. Dysplasia of the hip

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Tissue (deceased)	This entry is a duplicate of the 'Hip dysplasia' entry.
Tissue (live)	

The 'Dysplasia of the hip' entry will be removed.

Searching for 'dysplasia of the hip' will now return the required entry.

The guidance text of the 'Hip dysplasia' entry is unchanged.

12. Kala-azar

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Tissue (deceased)	This entry is a duplicate of the 'Leishmaniasis' entry.
Tissue (live)	
Bone marrow	
Cord blood	

The 'Kala-azar' entry will be removed.

'Kala-azar' will be added to the 'Leishmaniasis' entry as an 'Also known as' term.

The guidance text of the 'Leishmaniasis' entry is unchanged.

13. Spherocytosis

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Tissue (deceased)	This entry exists to redirect users to the 'Hereditary spherocytosis' entry and is no longer required.

The 'Spherocytosis' entry will be removed.

Searching for 'spherocytosis' will now return the 'Hereditary spherocytosis' entry.

The guidance text of the 'Hereditary spherocytosis' entry is unchanged.

14. Sleeping sickness

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
Tissue (deceased)	This entry is a duplicate of the 'African trypanosomiasis' entry.
Tissue (live)	
Bone marrow	
Cord blood	

The 'Sleeping sickness' entry will be removed.

'Sleeping sickness' will be added to the 'African trypanosomiasis' entry as an 'Also known as' term.

The guidance text of the 'African trypanosomiasis' entry is unchanged.

15. Trisomy 21

Guidelines affected	Reason for change
<u>Tissue (deceased)</u>	This entry is a duplicate of the 'Down's syndrome' entry.

The 'Trisomy 21' entry will be removed.

'Trisomy 21' will be added to the 'Down's syndrome' entry as an 'Also known as' term.

The guidance text of the 'Down's syndrome' entry is unchanged.