

Subgroup on Epidemiology and Surveillance

First Report

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Mission

To promote the exchange of information and methodology for surveillance and epidemiological studies of TTID to facilitate international comparison of TTID data

Proposed Activities

- To gather information on donor recruitment, screening, testing, deferral and transfusion practice that is relevant to surveillance and epidemiological studies of TTID in different countries or developmental/geographic areas;
- To compile information on donor and donation data recording and management in different settings that are relevant to surveillance and epidemiological studies of TTID;
- To identify common core data elements and procedures for collection of such data elements;
- To discuss methodological issues relevant to international comparison of TTID data;
- To facilitate the development of international surveillance and epidemiological projects on TTID;
- To formulate and promote better instruments for donor and donation data collection and management for improved international surveillance and epidemiological studies on TTID;
- To communicate vital epidemiological information to the medical and public health communities.

Relation with Existing Subgroups within WP-TTID

- This subgroup focuses on data and methodological issues related to TTID, especially those that may impact on international comparison of TTID data;
- This subgroup promotes collaborative efforts with other subgroups of WP-TTID as well as other WPs on issues that may be relevant to their missions;
- This group does not target any specific TTID or its agent, cost, cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness issues.

Venues for Activities

- Most of the activities will be conducted by communication through e-mails, telephone conversations and teleconference calls;
- Face-to-face meetings may be arranged at ISBT congresses where needed and feasible.

Membership

- Members of the Working Party for Transfusion Transmitted Infectious Diseases (WP-TTID) are invited to participate in the activities of the subgroup;
- Members of the ISBT who are not members of WP-TTID may be invited as observers to participate in the activities of the subgroup;
- External experts may be invited by the subgroup to join discussions on special issues on an as-needed basis.

Progress Report

- On September 25, 2009, Kathrin announced the formation of the subgroup and sent out an official invitation to all members of WP-TTID to join the newly formed subgroup on behalf of subgroup co-chairs.
- November 4, 2008, the subgroup had its first meeting by teleconference. Fourteen members participated in the meeting.
- The subgroup currently has 30 members from 12 countries and the WHO.

Country/Agency	Name
Australia	Elizabeth Dax Clive Seed
Brazil	Jose Eduardo
Canada	Gilles Delage Steve Kleinman Sheila O'Brien Pierre Robillard Jun Wu
China	Yan Qiu Yunzheng Xie

Country/Agency	Name
Egypt	Magdy El Ekiaby
France	Azzedine Assal
Germany	Micha Nubling
Netherland	Henk Reesink
Ortho	Tony Hardiman
Pall	Joe Cervia
Poland	Ewa Brojer
South Africa	Sam Gulube
UK	Jean Pierre Allain John Barbara

Country/Agency	Name
UK (con't)	Lisa Brant
USA	Celso Bianco Mike Busch Brian Custer Roger Dodd Diane Gubernot David Leiby Susan Stramer Shimian Zou
WHO	Neelam Dhingra

Progress Report (con't)

- On March 2, 2009, the co-chairs had a discussion with officials from the WHO, Drs. Neelam Dhingra-Kumar and Junping Yu, on possible collaborative effort in improving data collection to allow enhanced international comparison of data on blood safety and risk assessment. The purpose is to avoid unnecessary duplication and to make efforts from both sides more complementary to each other;
- The co-chairs have consulted or are in the process of consulting with other agencies and international organizations to identify areas for potential collaboration while avoiding duplication;
- Currently, the subgroup is in the process of activity planning, both for the short term and for the long term.